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The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** hoisted the National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George, at the Secretariat, and paid his respects

வெற்றிப் பாதையில்

நான் முதல்வன்

ஓராண்டு வெற்றி விழா

தலைமை

திரு. மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் அவர்கள்

மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர்

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** distributed appointment orders from various premier organizations to college students who had completed training under the scheme, at the first year victory celebrations of the **'Naan Mudhalvan'** Scheme held in the Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai, on 07.08.2023.

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Not belittling the prowess of those who have the power to execute deeds to completion, is the greatest of all ways of guarding oneself from harm.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** in connection with Independence Day, hoisted the National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George and paid his respects at the Secretariat, Chennai on 15.08.2023.

To keep abreast of Government news tndiprnews DIPR TN tndipr TN DIPR www.dipr.tn.gov.in

Hon'ble Chief Minister hoists National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St. George

Independence Day speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, after hoisting the National Flag on the ramparts of Fort St.George at the Secretariat on 15.08.2023.

My warm regards to all of you.

First, my salute to the sparkling National Tricolour fluttering in the wind. My greetings to all the citizens who live in its shade.

Independence Day of the Indian Union has started its 77th year. Tamil Nadu is an important part of the Indian Union.

Tamil Nadu, which has the oldest language of Classical Tamil as its mother tongue, was known by various names in the past such as Chennai Maaganam, Madras Presidency, Madras Province, and Madras.

It was only after Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam came to power with Perarignar Anna as Chief Minister, the name Tamil Nadu was given to the State on July 18, 1967.

'If you think that only one Sankaralinganar sacrificed his life for Tamil, then we are ready to give five lives to every letter of the name Tamil Nadu', said Dr. Kalaignar in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

'Why should not Tamil Nadu be named Tamil Nadu after all the other language-speaking states that were in the Madras Presidency had

separated? Why should I be alive to see that?' Thanthai Periyar asked.

As the Chief Minister of such a glorious State, I am hoisting the National Flag for the third year. I am proud to hoist the Tricolor on the bastion of this 400-year-old Fort St. George. My warm greetings to the people of Tamil Nadu, who gave me this opportunity to hoist the Flag.

I am honored to have the opportunity to stand at the Fort and hoist the Flag during the centenary year of Dr.Kalaignar, who created modern Tamil Nadu.

Language affinity, Ethnicity & Patriotism

It was Kalaignar who secured the right to hoist the National Flags on the Independence Day by Chief Ministers in their respective States. Celebrating his Centenary is celebrating the Tamil language and Tamil Nadu.

The DMK Government always honours freedom fighters. I would like to give examples here.

A memorial hall for hero Poolithevan; Fort for Veerapandiya Kattabomman in Panchalankurichi, houses for the heirs of Maveeran Sundaralingam, Mahakavi Bharathi's house taken over by the Government, Manimandapam for Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Memorial for Moodharignar Rajaji, Manimandapam for Thillaiyadi Valliammal, Financial assistance to relatives of Veera Vanji, the oil press drawn by V.O.C. has been made a memorial, free bus ride for freedom fighters, Mani Mandapam for the martyrs, Independence Day Golden Jubilee Memorial, Memorial Hall for Thali Palayakarar Malayandi Vengidupathi Ethalappar, Memorial hall for Martyr Iswaran, Martyr Viswanatha Das's home renovated, statue for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, a statue for freedom fighter Kakkan, monument for the sepoy mutiny. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is a movement that honors martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the country. We are the people who have the feeling of patriotism in our blood along with our language and ethnic affiliations.

- When India was threatened by China in 1962, Perarignar Anna supported the then Prime Minister Pandit Nehru.
- When India was threatened by Pakistan in 1971, all the Indian states collected Rs.25 crore and handed over to the then Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Tamil Nadu on its part gave Rs.6 crore as its share.
- During the Kargil war in 1999, Chief Minister Kalaignar gave Rs. 50 crore to the then Prime Minister Vajpayee in three instalments.

The Dravidian Model Government in the State also respects the martyrs of the country.

- We celebrated the 75th anniversary of India's independence in a grand manner throughout the year. A memorial has been erected near Napier Bridge.
- We declared Bharathiyar death anniversary, 11th September, as 'Mahakavi Day'.
- We made 14 announcements in commemoration of his death centenary.
- Similarly we released 13 announcements to honor V.O.Chidambaranar.
- We collected his writings and released them as books, through the Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation.
- Apart from all this, I am very happy to announce that the Government Agricultural

College and Research Institute Killikkulam, in Thoothukudi District, the native village of V.O. Chidambaranar will be named after him. I would also like to recall here that for this Agricultural College and Research Institute, Rs.15 crore has been allotted in this year's Agriculture Budget for setting up a Palm Research Institute and a Banana Research Institute.

- Bharathiyar's house at Kasi in Uttar Pradesh was renovated.

- A statue of Veerapandiya Kattabomman was erected in Guindy Gandhi Mandapam. A statue of the Marudhu brothers has been erected in Guindy.

- Steps have been taken to set up sound and light displays at the memorials of freedom fighters.

- Gandhi Mandapam, Museum, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Mandapam and elder statesman Bhaktavatchalam Mandapam have been renovated.

- Annal Gandhi Adigal came to Tamil Nadu 20 times in his lifetime. It was from the soil of Madurai that the Gandhi Adigal took the decision to wear only loin cloth. As a symbol of this, we have erected a statue of Gandhi in the Chennai Museum. I opened it.

Increase in family pension for freedom struggle Martyrs

The DMK Government not only does what it has said but also what it has not said.

- In the previous year, martyrs pension was increased from Rs.18,000 to Rs. 20,000 and the family pension from Rs.9000 to Rs.10,000.

- Likewise, our Government continues to provide assistance to the descendants of freedom fighters.

- I am pleased to announce today that the monthly pension to the family members of

martyrs will be increased from Rs.10,000 to Rs.11,000.

Tamil Nadu was the first to sow the seeds of the freedom struggle. The patriotism in the blood of Tamil race is in no way inferior to any other races in the country.

When the East India Company set foot here in 1600, it was Tamil Nadu that immediately raised the slogan of freedom against their oppression. Some say that the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny was the first Indian War of Independence. But before that, in the year 1755, the freedom struggle had started in the south and also in Tamil Nadu.

This is the reason why when we stand at Fort St. George and hoist the flag, we feel proud and emotional as a Tamil. When slavery started in the country, the cry of liberation was raised from the soil of Tamil Nadu.

On August 15, 1947, our country was freed from British rule and the national flag flew. But many years before that, it was Mahakavi Bharathiyar who prophesied that we have already achieved freedom in his poem, 'Aaduvomey Pallu Paaduvomey'.

Under the guidance of Annal Gandhi Adigal, emphasizing that India should be free from the British, in the year 1930, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru appealed to the people of the country to celebrate 26th January as Liberation Day and hoist the Tricolour. People hoisted the Tricolour then in many parts of the country.

History of Sacrifice

At midnight before dawn on that day, a young man climbed a tall flagpole in St. George's Fort, Chennai. He climbed carefully so as not to be seen by the English guards. At that time there was a lighthouse near the High Court. To avoid the light, he hid behind

the flag pole and hoisted the National Flag after removing the Union Jack Flag. The name of that heroic youth is Arya alias Bhashyam.

When the British officers woke in the morning, they were shocked to find the tricolour flying instead of their flag. The people of Chennai were happy. This flagpole and the flag flying on it have a history of sacrifice.

This flag is not only a flag to protect India, but a flag to be protected. This is not just a flag, but it is the crown of the people of India. It is this Tricolour that was born at the dawn of India, and it is the flag that is fuelling the emotion and excitement to build the future of India.

The vast country of India is inhabited by people of various ethnicities. There are people who speak different languages. People of various religious faiths live here. Dress varies from state to state. Food varies from state to state. Sentiments vary from state to state. Culture and customs vary. Despite so many differences we live in unity. As they speak of living under an umbrella, we live under the flag, the Tricolour Flag.

By hoisting the Tricolour flag, we salute the country and salute its people. My warm greetings to all the people of the country who are marching in line before the Tricolour Flag.

Today, let us all pay our respects to all the heroes who made us breathe the air of freedom. Let's salute their families.

India for one and all

All the great people who fought for India's freedom had dreamt of an India free from communal and caste clashes. On August 15, when India was celebrating freedom, Mahatma Gandhi, who led the freedom struggle, was not in the capital Delhi at that time, but in the Noakhali area where sectarian riots took place. He stayed in a place where people affected by violence lived instead of in a safe place.

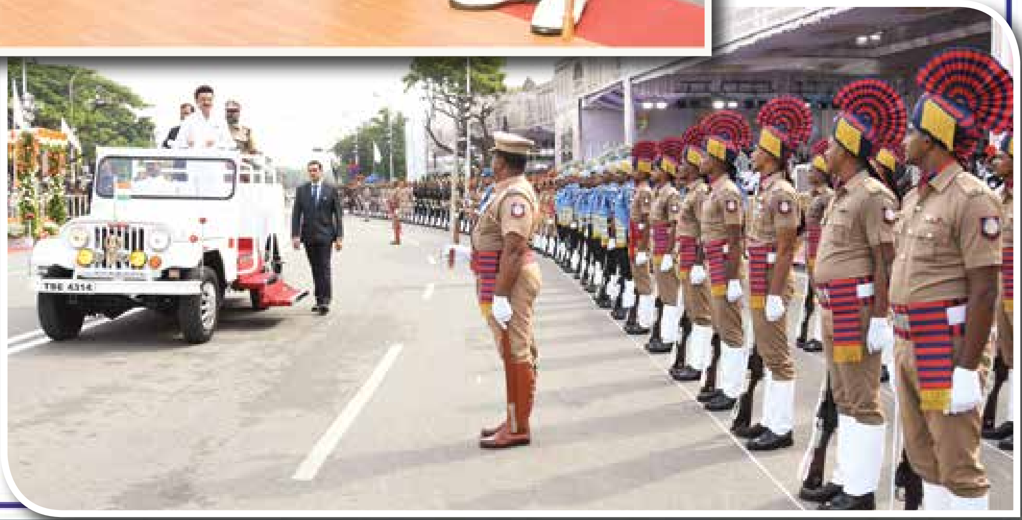
Mahatma Gandhi controlled the riots with his moral values and pure heart.

"Though there were 55 thousand soldiers in Punjab, the riots could not be controlled. But you have controlled the riots in Bengal as a single player," noted the then Governor General Mountbatten in a letter to Annal Gandhi Adigal. Annal Gandhi Adigal, who pacified Calcutta, next came to Delhi. He established the same peace.

Gandhi Adigal considered it his most important task to go and pacify people when people fought with each other in the name of religion and caste.

"The day when the poorest people think that this nation is theirs, in the creations of which their voices are heard, in which India there wouldn't be a difference within people as those of higher caste and lower caste, the country in which people of all sections would live in harmony, that is the real India!" said Mahatma Gandhi.

Mahaveer Bhagatsingh, who went to the gallows with a smile on the face at the



age of 25, said... "A child crying for milk, a student yearning for education, a youth looking for a job... Free India should never face such situations".

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was like a lion during the final phase of British rule. It was the Indian National Army that he created that made the British feel that they could no longer keep India. It was Netaji who created the Indian National Army by appealing to youth, "Give me your blood and I will give you freedom". "India's journey must be in a socialist direction," said Netaji.

Dr.Ambedkar, who drafted the constitution for free India, wanted a common India for all. "It would make a mockery of our Constitution to leave class distinctions and gender distinctions alone and continue to legislate on economic issues. It will be like building a mansion on dunghills," said Dr. Ambedkar. This is what Thanthai Periyar, emphasized. "A sense of self-respect and brotherhood should emerge in human society. The idea that one is superior and one is inferior should be removed and the idea that all living beings are one must arise. Class conflicts must disappear. Thanthai Periyar said that his goal was to create common co-operative equal rights for all.

Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam

What they all wanted was an egalitarian-fraternal-samadharma India. India should be shaped not by borders but by ideas. We are running such a Government in Tamil Nadu. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is a movement that stands on the foundation of the ideologies of Social Justice - Equality - Self-respect – Language and Racial Rights - State Autonomy. Our Government is based on these ideas.

If you look at the development achieved by Tamil Nadu in the last two years, it is not a single sector development but a multi-sector development.

Based on that, we are going to introduce a scheme to change the status of women, who have been toiling for the welfare of their families for a long time, without their work being valued.

The 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam which would benefit over crores of women every month will be launched on September 15, on the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna.

We want to give this as a recognition of women who have been working tirelessly throughout their lives for this society. Under this scheme, Rs.1,000 will be directly credited to women's bank accounts every month.

In the way of Annal Ambedkar, who said that 'the progress of a country will be measured by the progress of women', the Government has introduced 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme, for ensuring higher education for women. In the last financial year, about 2 lakh young women were given Rs.100 crore as scholarship.

In the current year, about Rs.350 crore has been allocated for about Two lakh Eleven thousand girl students, studying higher education.

I am heartened to see that with the implementation of the 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme, light has spread in the homes of girls and the light is also seen on the faces of their parents and siblings.

Journey towards Dawn

When I took charge as the Chief Minister of the State on May 7, 2021, the first file I cleared was to provide free bus facility for women.

When the news that the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam had won the majority to form the Government was trickling out, officials came to meet me. At that time, I said that I consider providing free bus facility for women as my first task and I am going to sign the first signature for that.

“Already the transport sector is suffering from heavy losses. In that situation, if we say that there is no fare for women, the loss would be heavy, opined some officials.

We came to power by saying that “we are going to usher in the dawn”. To mark the onset of dawn, we should declare cost free bus service to women.

On an average, about 50 lakh women are travelling daily under this scheme, which has reduced the economic burden of women from various walks of life. So far, around 314 crore women have benefited from the scheme. This scheme enables women to save an average of over Rs. 850 per month.

This scheme is a symbol of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam rule’s to provide economic liberation to crores of women. It will continue to be the starting point for the dawn for all women in their lives.

Breakfast Scheme

Another major scheme is the breakfast scheme for school students. As Chief Minister, while carrying out inspection work in a school, I saw a few students looking tired and pale. When I asked them, they said that they had not taken their food in the morning. I realized that as the mothers of poor families had to go for their work, they could not cook the morning food for their school-going children. The Dravidian Model Government is a Government that functions as a mother to children and a child to mothers. That is why, we introduced Morning Breakfast Scheme for students from Class I to Class V from September 15, the birthday of Perarignar Anna.

It is not enough to announce schemes on behalf of the Government. The Government has to monitor whether the schemes reach and benefit the people. That is the reason why I am conducting surveys on the status of Government projects. When Ministers, Officials and Experts were consulted about this scheme, they said that no other state in India was providing such food in the morning on school days. I said, let the history of Tamil Nadu as a State that provides pioneering projects to India and continue. This historic scheme has ensured an increase in student attendance and uninterrupted access to education.

As a continuation of this, the Chief Minister’s breakfast scheme will be

extended to Government schools across the state from August 25 to benefit 15.75 lakh students studying in 31,008 Government schools from the coming academic year. I am going to start the extended breakfast program at Thirukkuvalai School, where Muthamizharignar Kalaignar had his early education. Rs. 404 crore has been allocated for this scheme in the current financial year.

Scheme for well-nourished children

I feel that it is my duty and responsibility to see that it is fully implemented. Similarly, during my inspection I saw an emaciated child in an anganwadi. The officials at the anganwadi said it was due to malnutrition. Immediately I consulted with the Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment and higher officials and also asked for the state-wide statistics on children with malnutrition.

The statistics I got was shocking. As the Tamil saying goes, to paint a mural we need a wall. If you have physical strength, you will have mental strength. There will be a great future. So I asked them to make a plan to provide nutrition to the children with malnutrition.

You might have seen the news in the newspapers on March 1 about 'Seven Iconic Projects'. One of those seven programmes is 'Oottachathai Urudhi Sei Thittam' (Ensure Nutrition).

It is a programme to provide nutrition to children under six years of age. In the last one year, about 10 lakh children have been medically examined, out of which about 92 thousand children have been found to be malnourished, and about 62 thousand children have made good progress in their nutritional status by being provided special, nutritious food. I met some of them after having them brought to the Fort. Four-year-old Varun, two-year-old Nusaipa and, two-and-a-half-year-old Saithiran were brought to me. I knew these children were growing up in a very, very healthy way. I was so happy to see them.

3,038 children with congenital defects have been operated under this programme and are now doing well.

Similarly, around 14,000 children have made good progress due to the provision of special supplementary nutrition to nursing mothers of children up to six months of age. The programme has created a positive impact among young mothers on the importance of nutrition.

Naan Mudhalvan Scheme

Next, you will know my dream project, 'Naan Mudhalvan'. You, the people, made me the Chief Minister. Even though I am the Chief Minister, my intention is that the children in every home should improve their skills and excel in such a way that I can say that I am also 'Naan Mudhalvan'.

Under this scheme, about 13 lakh students have been successfully trained in the last one year alone and more than three and a half lakh students have been placed in various jobs with the help of the Government. It gives me absolute joy to create a generation of talented people and job opportunities.

I am announcing another initiative to further expand this programme on this Independence Day. This is for the benefit of ex-servicemen, who spend their youth in military service on the borders of the country and return after the completion of their service. Under the scheme, about 10,000 ex-servicemen will be trained, at an estimated cost of around Rs.7 crore, to improve their skills. Steps will be taken to assist them till they get their proper job.

Welfare Board for Ola, Uber, Swiggy, Zomato Workers

Nowadays, we often see in various cities, starting from metros like Chennai, vehicles belonging to companies like Ola, Uber, Swiggy, Zomato are providing quick services.

The life of such employees who work to save our precious time, is important. I am also announcing today that a separate Welfare Board to safeguard their overall welfare.

A scheme to provide a subsidy of Rs. One lakh to women working as auto drivers to purchase new autos is already being implemented. While 141 persons have benefited under this scheme, it will be expanded to benefit 500 more women. Also, the scheme will be extended to third gender working as auto drivers.

Kalaignar Centenary Park

I am also very happy to announce that 'Kalaignar Centenary Park' will be set up at a cost of Rs.25 crore on 6.09 acres of land near 'Senganthal Park' on Cathedral Road, Chennai.

The Government announces new programmes every day. Government employees are the ones who take these programmes to the people. So they have great responsibility in implementing the schemes. They are responsible for turning the wheels of governance. It is in the hands of civil servants to turn the wheel fast or slow. Those hands should be healthy. The Dravidian Model Government has always realized this fact.

Therefore, I am happy to announce on this occasion that we are going to fill up about 55 thousand posts in various fields in the current year. We are formulating and implementing such schemes as a symbol of Government for all.

Our Government is providing governance that will benefit all eight crore people of the state in one way or another.

Tamil Nadu has been contributing to the overall development of India in all aspects of education, economy, medicine, agriculture, exports and efficient human resources.

If the Dravidian Model of social justice governance system spreads to the whole of India, there can be no happier news than that.

Perarignar Anna and Dr.Kalaignar continued to raise their voice for the State autonomy. All subjects that need direct contact with the people should be included in the state list. Education, in particular, should be transferred to the state list.

Only by doing so, cruel examination system like NEET can be completely eliminated. The country which is a union of states should grow with the development of all the people of different races-languages-religions-cultures.

Building an India with the highest ideals of social justice - equality - fraternity - equality - secularism - welfare of the oppressed will be a true tribute to the martyrs who fought for India's freedom. Building such an egalitarian, equitable and socially just India would be a true tribute to the martyrs who fought for India's freedom.

Let us protect the freedom gained through unity with the same unity. Let us root out the forces that sow discord. Happy Independence Day to all who love our India with the pride of being Indians.

Long live the glory of the martyrs! Long live the fame of Thiyagis!

Long live Tamil! May India thrive!

Nandri ! Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister calls upon students getting their degrees to delve deeper and acquire more knowledge

At the 165th Convocation Function of Madras University, the Hon'ble President of India **Tmt. Droupadi Murmu** presided over the function as the Chief Guest, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** delivered his speech on 06.08.2023.

First of all, I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

"Pattangal Aalvadhum Sattangal Seivadhum
Paarinil Pengal Nadatha Vanthom
Ettum Arivinil Aanukingey Penn
Ilaippillai Kaanendru gummiadi", wrote Poet Bharathi in one of his poems. (Women are in no way inferior to men in studies or in making laws. Clap resoundingly to assert that women are equal to men in gaining knowledge).

The Hon'ble President stands testimony to the proclamation of Bharathi, as she occupies the post of the country's President; I extend my welcome and greetings to her.

The University Grants Commission has recognized Madras University as one of the centres with 'potential for excellence' in the country. The presence of the Hon'ble President at the University function is really a great honour to the University; it is a red letter day in the annals of the University.

Former Presidents of the country, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, Thiru.V.V.Giri, Thiru. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, Thiru. R.Venkatraman and Thiru. A.P.J.Abdul Kalam are all alumni of this great university.

Nobel laureate Sir C.V.Raman studied in this university.

Judges, political leaders, educationists, first woman Doctor, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy, and many women personalities have studied in this University. The great leader of Tamil Nadu, Arignar Anna, studied in this university. I am also a student of this University. So I am participating as a senior to you, in this function.

For the last 165 years, this university has been making its contribution to the growth of south India but also to modern India. In those days, Madras University was the only University in Tamil Nadu.

During the Justice Party rule in the State, the first university outside Chennai, Annamalai University, was started in Chidambaram. Today, the State has 22 Government universities.

You all know that the State excels as the best higher education state in the country.

Out of the 100 best educational Institutions in the country, 21 are in Tamil Nadu; out of the 100 best colleges in the country, 32 colleges are in Tamil Nadu; out of the 100 best research institutes in the country, 10 are in Tamil Nadu; out of the 200 best engineering colleges in the country 35 colleges are in Tamil Nadu; out of the best 100 management institutes 11 are in Tamil Nadu; out of 100 medical colleges in the country 8 are in Tamil Nadu; 9 out of 40 Dental colleges, 2 out of 30 law colleges and 6 out of 30 top Architecture colleges are all in Tamil Nadu.

I can keep on adding to this list. We are the best educational state in the country. This was due to the educational seeds sown some 100 years ago by the Justice Party. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar developed school education and it was extended to college education by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. In today's Dravidian Model Government, we are developing into a state with research education. We are giving proper guidance to students and making them specially talented people.

My 'Kanavu Thittam' is to make students win in their lives apart from their studies. The scheme is to make on an average 10 lakh students per annum as students who are good at their studies, have intellectual power and efficiency.

Under the scheme, not only students but also the teachers are given skill development training to upgrade their knowledge.

The State Government has also introduced the Chief Minister's Fellowship Programme to give impetus to the new research and initiatives of students and of professors. For this scheme, the Government has allotted Rs. 50 crore in the current budget.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is seriously concentrating on its own State Education Policy in tune with the history of Tamil Nadu, and its future target, economic growth and industry.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has also introduced the Chief Minister's Startup Scheme. Under this scheme, it has planned to give 2 years training with stipend to students based on their educational and technical qualification.

To encourage women's education, we have introduced Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme by name 'Pudhumai Penn' scheme through this an incentive of Rs. 1,000 per month is given to girl students who pursue higher education after completing their schooling in Government schools.

To enable students in the southern districts to equip themselves for the competitive examinations, UPSC examinations, and skill-oriented examinations, we have declared open the Kalaignar Centenary Library in Madurai. Already the Anna Centenary Library in Chennai is functioning with a new look.

This library was appreciated by the US Foreign Ambassador, Tmt. Hillary Clinton, during her visit to Chennai. These measures have been taken to take the students of Tamil Nadu to the next level. For the students of Madras University we have announced and introduced new schemes.

- In the Marina complex of the Madras University, we are constructing a new modern hostel at a cost of Rs.30 crore.

- The University Centenary Auditorium with a seating capacity of 3,000 is being renovated.

• A new women's hostel is to be constructed in the Chepauk complex of the University.

• The Union Government and the State Government have jointly contributed Rs.50 crore for the Tamil Nadu Entrepreneurs and Industrial Guidance Centre at the Madras University.

• Already, the practice of taking up jobs during studies is in vogue in the State.

• Already, we have introduced new subjects like 'Professional Ethics in the Thirukkural' and 'Social Justice' in our syllabus. By taking these special steps, the university is upgrading itself.

I extend my warm greetings to students, who are receiving their degrees.

At this juncture, a couplet by Poet Thiruvalluvar comes to my mind.

Your knowledge should flow like a spring which gushes forth as you delve deeper. Education does not end with taking a degree. Don't stop with acquiring a single degree. You should get more degrees. You should continue your studies even after getting a suitable job.

Education is the only wealth that cannot be stolen by anybody. If that education is scientific and you have the capacity to question ideas and take them forward, nobody can beat you. Today I am as happy as your parents. I am proud not only as the Chief Minister of the State but also as one of your family members.

Today you have brought credit to your family and to the University. In a similar manner, you should bring glory to the State and the nation. This is the appeal I place before you.

The Higher Education Department and the State Government will stand with Madras University for its growth, development and finance mobilization.

I thank the University Vice-Chancellor, professors and students for their continuous efforts to raise the standard of the University to international levels. With these words I conclude my speech.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inspects storm water drain works

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**
inspected the progress of storm water drain works - 03.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on 03.08.2023, inspected and reviewed the progress of storm water drain works on the M.G.R. Road, in the Greater Chennai Corporation, at a cost Rs. 71.31 crore, construction of sluices across Porur Lake, at a cost of Rs. 100 crore, closed canal work from Porur Lake to Ramapuram Canal and storm water drain works from Ashok Nagar 4th Avenue and the surrounding areas, at a cost of Rs. 7.60 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also made a surprise inspection of the Pazhavanthangal Police Station.

Review of the progress of storm water drain work on the M.G.R. Road under the jurisdiction of Alandur Zone in the Greater Chennai Corporation, at a cost of Rs.71.31 crore

The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the progress of storm water drain work on the M.G.R Road under the jurisdiction of Alandur Zone. This work starts from the Hindu Colony 4th Street and begins from M.G.R road junction, Nanganallur 100 feet Road, Nanganallur 46th Road, Nanganallur 6th main road, Kubera Munusamy road and reaches Veerangal Canal. The total distance is about 1.78 km. The balance work will be complete before this month-end. The present works after completion will benefit residents in Hindu Colony, P.V. Nagar and Nehru High Road.

Surprise inspection of Pazhavanthangal Police Station

The S 9 Pazhavanthangal Police Station was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 12.04.2022. The Hon'ble Chief Minister made a surprise inspection of the station and reviewed the records of the station. He advised the station officials to take immediate action on complaints made by the public and provide proper help to them.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the progress of sluice laying work on the Porur Lake and the closed canal work from Porur Lake to Ramapuram Canal, at a cost of Rs. 100 crore.

The Porur Lake, which is under the control of Irrigation Department extends over 252 acres. The total capacity of the lake is about 67 mcft. On the right bank of the lake, provision has been made for the surplus water movement. The total length of the bank is about 3,092 metres.

For many years, the excess water from the Porur Lake reached Ramapuram Canal, via Moulivakkam, Madanandapuram and Mugalivakkam, reached the Ramapuram Canal and finally merged in the Adyar River via Manapakkam and Ramapuram. As a major portion of the excess water route have turned into housing areas and a by-pass road has been laid on the Lake, it has become difficult for the surplus water to drain. This resulted in the surplus water flooding the Kolathuvancheri, Srinivasapuram, Bharanipudur, Pattur and Iyyappanthangal areas, which are on the western side of Porur Lake. During last year's monsoon, these areas were heavily flooded. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the flooded areas on 04.12.2021 and took steps for preventing the flooding.

To prevent the flooding and to take preventive measures in Kancheepuram and Chennai Districts, administrative sanction was given for Rs. 250 crore. Of this, at a cost of Rs. 100 crore, flood prevention measures are being taken in the areas around Porur lake. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the sluice laying works in Porur Lake, and the closed canal works from Porur Lake to Ramapuram Canal. He directed the officials to complete the work before the beginning of the monsoon.

Inspection of the storm water drain work in Ashok Nagar 4th Avenue at a cost of Rs. 7.60 crore

Rain water stagnated for about 2 feet for over 10 days during the 2021 and 2022 monsoon season in the areas around the Ashok Nagar 4th avenue, under the Kodambakkam Division. The stagnant water in the Ashok Nagar 4th Avenue reached the Adyar river for 2.5 km via Postal Colony, Old Canal and Reddikuppam Canal, thereby flooding the wayside areas. Due to this, Postal Colony and West Mambalam were affected.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the progress of storm water drain works at Ashok Nagar 4th Avenue. The work, as per the advice of the technical experts, includes construction of 1.313 km-long new canal, at a cost of Rs. 7.60 crore with the assistance from the State Disaster Relief Fund.

Through these storm water drain works, the stagnant water will quickly reach the Adyar River through Jafferkhanpet Canal. These works will completely prevent the flooding of Ashok Nagar 4th Avenue and 6th Avenue and the surrounding areas in future.

Hon’ble Chief Minister opens Rs.218.20 crore Kalaignar Centenary Library in Madurai

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, inaugurated the Kalaignar Centenary Library - 15.07.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on 15.07.2023, declared open the ‘Kalaignar Centenary Library’, set up at a cost of Rs.218.20 crore, on the New Natham Road in Madurai on 2.73 acres in a 2,13,338 sq.ft area. The library has 6 floors.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister on the occasion of the birth centenary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, on 03.06.2021, made an announcement that Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, who had great interest on books and reading, declared open the Anna Centenary Library at Kotturpuram in Chennai, during the 102nd birth anniversary celebrations of Perarignar Anna in 2010. This library serves as a beacon to those in the margins of society. With a view to provide similar

opportunity to the people in the southern districts, a state-of-the-art library, will be opened in Madurai on a 2 lakh sq.ft area.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu laid the foundation stone for the Kalaignar Centenary Library at the PWD Complex on New Natham Road, in Madurai on 11.01.2022.

The construction of the centenary building was completed in 17 months and the centenary library, with ground plus six floors was declared open on 15.07.2023.

The construction cost was Rs.120.75 crore, books were purchased for Rs.60 crore, information technology equipment at Rs. 5 crore, and furniture, open-air theatre and additional facilities at Rs.37.45 crore, totally at a cost of Rs. 218.20 crore.

Floor-wise details:

In the Basement Floor - 4 wheeler parking, ground-level water tank, information/daily newspaper collection room, book segregation wing;

Ground Floor - Art gallery, differently-abled persons wing, Conference Hall, Important dignitaries Room, own books reading section, Multi-purpose auditorium, section for enrolling members, computer control room, Postal wing;

First floor - Kalaignar section, section for periodicals and newspapers, Cinema hall for children, section for children's books, section for reading own books, children's science park, scientific equipments section;

Second floor - Tamil Books section; Third floor Tamil Books section, English Books section, research publications;

Fourth floor - books for the competitive examinations, and indoor garden;

Fifth Floor - Rare books wing, e-library, multimedia section, Books preservation section, audio-video viewing section, digitizing wing, library studio, micro filming section, micro card section;

Sixth Floor – English Books, Book segregation wing, Book indexing, Chief librarian's office, Administrative section, Book purchase section and section for staff taking food;

The library has escalator facility from ground floor to second floor, lift, central air-conditioning facility, wifi facility for visitors and open garden facility for reading books.

Details of books

Ground Floor – Tamil Nadu Text books, Books for competitive examinations and 1,800 Braille books for visually challenged persons; First Floor – 30,000 nationally and internationally updated Children books;

Second Floor - In the Tamil Books Section, Tamil Literature, Grammar books, novels, short stories, poems, plays, articles, letters, autobiographies, and computer science, magazines, psychology, philosophy, anthropology, law, economics, Tamil art, culture, civilization, Tamil antiquity, books translated into Tamil from other languages, science books, (more than one lakh books);

Third Floor - English books, computer engineering, psychology, religion, social science, economics, law, scientific technology, Nano Technology, robotics, artificial intelligence, space technology, engineering, astronomy, fine art, sports, agriculture, food, history and geology and over one lakh books of renowned authors, which are printed at the national and international level;

Fourth floor - Books for TNPSC, TRB, UPSC and banking competitive competitions. Over 30,000 books are available in this section. In the English books reference section, books on computer engineering, philosophy, law, religion, social science, economics, law and science. 50,000 reference books in English on various subjects are available. The English books section on the sixth floor contains 60,000 books on all subjects including Science, Technology, History and Geography. Again in the rare book section, there are 16,000 books in Tamil language, Tamil Culture, Tamil History, and anthropology, documents and hand written books.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister after declaring open the Kalaignar Centenary Library

I use to say repeatedly that Education and the Health are the two eyes of Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin's Dravidian Model Government.

That is the reason that I declared open the Kalaignar Centenary Super Speciality Hospital on June 15 at Guindy–Saidapet and after a month, on July 15, I am opening the Kalaignar Centenary Library in Madurai.

With pride, I deem it a great pleasure to welcome you all for this function.

First of all I extend my warm welcome to all of you. Stalin not only does what he has promised but also what he has not assured. That is Stalin.

These two projects, a multi-speciality hospital in Chennai and a library in Madurai were not announced in the Election Manifesto of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

If Chennai is the official capital of Tamil Nadu, Madurai is the cultural capital. If the Centenary Library for Tamil Nadu's foremost son, Arignar Anna was declared open by his 'brother' Dr.Kalaignar, the Centenary Library in the name of Kalaignar has been dedicated to the people by this humble self (Adiyen).

I am really happy and proud to declare open the Centenary Library. It is appropriate to set up a library in Madurai, where the Tamil language was nurtured since Sangam times and which made the Sangam literature accessible to the common people.

Kalaignar wrote a number of pieces about Silappadhikaram and about Kannagi, the woman, who demanded justice with her anklet. Now in this Madurai, the fire of knowledge will be spread from today through this library. The Dravidian Movement itself signifies a Knowledge Movement.

The Dravidian Movement is responsible for an uprising among the people, which it achieved through writing, speech and study. Perarignar Anna named the headquarters of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam as Arivagam and Dr. Kalaignar named the new headquarters of DMK as Anna Arivalayam. DMK is not only a political movement but also a knowledge movement.

We have been constructing big libraries since we came to power. On this occasion, I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Highways and Minor Ports, Thiru. E.V.Velu and the Hon'ble Minister for, Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi for setting up this beautiful library, at a cost of Rs. 120.75 crore on 2,13,338 sq.ft.

I also congratulate PWD and School Education Department officials and others connected with the construction project for giving us this beautiful library.

Only with real interest, dedication and eagerness, can this type of building be raised. This building is also the reflection of their love towards the leader of Tamil race Kalaignar.

Thiru. Shiv Nadar and his daughter Roshini have come as special guests to participate in this function. I have brought them to the function to introduce them to students.

He is a big industrialist and among the top Indian Industrialists. He is known to have given the maximum donation.

His mother is reported to have advised him that if you get money, you should help others. For that purpose alone, he started a Trust. Thiru. Nadar, who is the founder of a HCL with 2 lakh persons on the rolls in 50 nations, studied in a Government school. He has adopted many villages.

He was born in a village and studied in a corporation school. He started his concern in a small way and today he has risen to this level. I brought him today as a Special Guest to introduce him as a pole star to students. His daughter Roshini is functioning as the director of the company. She is the symbol of Periyar's dream that women should take all the positions in the society. These two people have come to

the function. I thank them for accepting my invitation.

As far as the Kalaignar Centenary Library is concerned, it will serve children, students, competitive examination aspirants and differently-abled persons. The library, with 6 floors, has a collection of 3 lakh books. Symbolically, Dr.Kalaignar welcomes you in the form of a statue at the entrance of the Library.

As far as Kalaignar is concerned, he is number one in all departments. In politics, he was the president of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam for over 50 years, Chief Minister of the State for 5 times, he was a Legislator many times and the Opposition Leader many times.

Cinema? Kalaignar wrote stories, dialogues, lyrics and produced films.

Stage drama? He wrote scripts for dramas and also acted in them.

Newspaper world? Even as a student, he ran a handwritten newspaper. He also ran a newspaper with himself as the writer. Kalaignar stamped his skill as short story writer, novelist and dialogue writer.

As we want you to develop all these multiple skills, we have opened the library.

Kalaignar himself is a big library, with a long list of books written by him.

Nejukku Needhi, Kuraloviyam, Sanga Thamizh, Silapadhikaram as Epic, Thenpandi Singam, Tholkappiya Poonga, Payum Puli Pandaraga Vanniyan, Romapuri Pandiyan, Ponnar Sankar, Thai, Commentary to Thirukkural, Viduthalai Kilarchi, Vellikizhamai, Pudhaiyal, Ore Ratham, Irulum Oliyum, Kizhavan Kanavu, Thudikkum Ilamai, Nalayini, Pazhakkudai, Kavidhaiyalla, Aru Maadha Kadunkaval, Siraiyil Pootha Sirumalargal, Vairamanigal, Natchu Koppai, Thookku Medai and Udhaya Suriyan. We can go on listing the titles of books written by him.

The book 'Nenjukku Needhi', compilation of letters to the party cadres itself has six volumes.

The letters he wrote to the "Udanpirappugal" have been released as 54 volumes. His speeches in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly were released in 12 parts.

His lectures and speeches have not been fully compiled. His lectures since 1945 alone would run into more than 100 books. Sirukathaigal, Kavithaigal, Petti Seithigal, Stage plays, Tidbits in magazines, Oviyangal and cartoons. If we compile all these things, more volumes have to be released. You have to keep a separate library to keep all these magazines. That is reason, I called Kalaignar himself as a library.

In Tamil Nadu, there is an army of people who have written about Kalaignar, done research about Kalaignar and followed the writing style of Kalaignar. This army is known as Kalaignar's Army.

In our Tamil Nadu, there exists the Kalaignar ancestry. This Kalaignar ancestry is that which has been developing Tamil Nadu generation after generation!

Here, we have people who have come from schools and colleges. You have to learn a lot from the life of Kalaignar. He was born in Tirukkuvalai Village, as the son of Muthuvelar and Anjugam Ammaiyar. Right from the early age he started to fight for the Tamil language and Tamils. In Tirukkuvalai Primary School, he studied from first standard to fifth standard. In class, he was the class leader. He was denied admission in Standard V in Tiruvarur High School by the then Headmaster Kasthuri Iyengar.

Then he threatened that he would commit suicide by jumping into the Kamalalayam tank, just opposite to the school. That was how much interest Kalaignar had in studies. That interest in studies is the thirst of Tamil society.

On seeing his interest in studies, he was admitted in the fifth standard. When he was 13, the Hindi agitation started in Tamil Nadu. He organized a rally along with students by carrying Tamil flags and shouting 'Down with Hindi' agitating against its compulsory imposition. He handed over bit notices against Hindi to the Hindi teacher himself. In our country, many languages are spoken. Nobody should forget that. If the Tamil language functions independently and retains its identity, it is due to the agitations against Hindi, for which Dravidian Movement and the DMK are responsible.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar formed Children's Reform Association and trained them in the art of speaking. He conducted weekly meetings for the unity of students.

At the age of 16 he started the Tamil Nadu Maanavar Mandram. To develop the art of writing among students, he started a monthly handwritten magazine 'Manavar Nesan'. He also functioned as the editor of the magazine.

At the age of 17, he celebrated the anniversary of Tamil Nadu Maanavar Mandram, for which Pavendar Bharathidasan sent his greetings. In 1942 his article, Ilamai Bali appeared in the third issue of the Perarignar Anna's Dravida Nadu. Perarignar Anna, who came to participate in the Nabigal Nayagam function in Tiruvarur met Kalaignar and eulogized his writing skills. He did not stop with it. He advised him to study well.

Kalaignar started Murasoli Publications and released Murasoli as a monthly magazine and in that, he wrote fierce articles in the pen name 'Cheran'.

All the incidents I have mentioned, happened before he was 20 years of age. As he had love for Tamil, his writing skills flourished. He became a leader because he had the courage to agitate for his rights.

Though Anna advised him to study well, Kalaignar studied in the school of Anna's principles as well as the Periyar's School of agitations.

It is the social and the political environment, and the fighting spirit within Kalaignar that prevented him from taking up further studies. But it is the agitator and protestor in Kalaignar that has made higher studies possible for all people. When Anna met Kalaignar for the first time, he advised him to study. Not only Anna, even I advice students when I meet them to study well, study well.

It is the Dravidian movement which claimed that education and employment are our birth right. Whatever the obstacles, do not stop your studies, as it was the only wealth that cannot be stolen by anybody. It is the permanent wealth.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar is the architect of modern Tamil Nadu in which each and everyone has the right to higher education.

Much of what you see in Tamil Nadu today were created by Kalaignar. Education is most essential for the growth of a race. It was the Justice Party, the parent body of the Dravidian Movement, that gave it first.

It was the DMK Government which made an educational revolution. It was only after the then Chief Minister Kalaignar said that education is free till pre-university, thousands flocked to schools. After hearing about this, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar said this gave him happiness and sent a word of congratulations to Kalaignar Karunanidhi.

Who announced Perunthalaivar's birth anniversary as 'Education Development Day'? It was announced by the then Chief Minister Kalaignar. On this day we are declaring open this library. Dr.Kalaignar opened more primary and high schools, made physical education compulsory, increased science lessons, set up more laboratories, distributed books free, and increased egg supply to 5 per week. He also set up the Tamil Nadu Text Book Society.

He gave many concessions to rural and first generation graduates. Free bus to all students, preference to Tamil medium students and introduction of computer studies.

During the first term of the DMK Government, many Government colleges were started. While only 68 Government colleges were started during the 20-year-period from 1947 to 1967, during Kalaignar's period 97 Government colleges were opened in the 7-year period from 1969 to 1975. Agricultural University in Coimbatore, Veterinary University in Chennai, Dr.Ambedkar Law University, Tamil Virtual University, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in Tirunelveli, Periyar University in Salem, many medical colleges and abolition of entrance examination for graduate courses.

If you give education, you can't prevent his growth. The DMK Government laid the basic foundation and today's Dravidian Model Government is giving importance to education.

Tamil Nadu stands second in giving quality education in India. The Government is making sincere efforts to attain the first place.

We are implementing many schemes for the benefit of students, including 'Illam Thedi Kalvi', 'Naan Mudhalvan' , 'Ennum Ezhuthum' Movement and Chief Minister's breakfast scheme.

'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme of Rs. 1,000 per month to enable Government school students to pursue college studies. From the Perarignar Anna's birth anniversary, September 15, we are going to introduce 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam'.

Eligible women from every family will get Rs. 1,000 per month. Your mother will get the Urimai Thogai. This is the greatest social welfare scheme of Rs.1,000 crore and is going to be the model scheme for the entire country. Our free bus for women is a model scheme for the country. We are introducing many such schemes that are followed by other States.

This is the code of Dravidian Model. Everyone gets everything. That is what we are doing through this Government.

We consider power as an opportunity to serve the people. I am occupying the seat of the Chief Minister only to serve you.

Tamil Nadu should become the number one in the country in all departments. We are functioning only with that sole aim. This Government is functioning as a Government for all sections of people and a Government that is welcomed by all people.

My humble appeal to the student community is make the best use of all opportunities provided by the Government. Do not get distracted during your studies. Concentrate on your studies. You are the hope of tomorrow. Not only your parents, the entire nation is looking at you.

I conclude my speech with the words of Kalaignar. Let us read the world through books and let us read the world like a book.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister participates in Perunthalaivar Kamarajar's birth anniversary celebrations with students in Nanganallur

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, on the birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar on July 15, being observed as Education Development Day, paid floral tribute to a portrait of Kamarajar at a function held at the Nehru Government Higher Secondary School, Nanganallur. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also distributed dictionaries to students of the schools, gifts to teachers and special prizes to students who had performed well in the school.

The birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar which falls on July 15 is celebrated as Education Development day every year as announced in 2006 of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. In accordance with the announcement, July 15 is celebrated as Education Development Day in all the schools in the State.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister participated in the celebration held at the Nehru Government boys Higher Secondary School in Nanganallur by offering floral tributes to a portrait of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. The Hon'ble Chief Minister then distributed cheques for Rs. 10,000 each to 6 students of the 12th standard and Rs. 44,000 totally as prize money to 6 students of the 10th standard.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over dictionaries to 4 students, as a token of distributing dictionaries to 777 students of the 10th, 11th and 12th Class of the school.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu handed over 7,740 books received by him as gifts in various functions to the public library of the School Education Department. They were received by the Hon'ble School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi.

News in Picture

Thiyagigal Dhinam

On the occasion of Thiyagigal Dinam, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M. P. Saminathan, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Thiru. Ma. Subramanian, Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation Tmt. R. Priya, Member of Legislative Assembly Thiru. A.M.V.Prabhakara Raja, Deputy Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation Thiru. M. Mahesh Kumar, Director of Information and Public Relations Thiru. D. Mohan I.A.S., paid floral tributes to the portraits of freedom fighters Shenbagaraman, Sankaralinganar and Arya alias Bashyam in the entrance of the Thiyagigal Manimandapam in the Gandhi Mandapam premises on 17.07.2023.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates registration process for Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, inaugurating the registration of application forms for the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam – 24.07.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, at a function at the Thoppur Government Higher Secondary School in Dharmapuri District, inaugurated the registration of application forms for the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam of Rs. 1,000 to women per month, also inspected the Bio-metric registration of applications and interacted with the prospective women beneficiaries.

Announcement about Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam in the budget

In the 2023-2024 budget, the Government

of Tamil Nadu announced the Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam of giving Rs. 1,000 per woman head of the family. The Government has been implementing various welfare schemes for the benefit of women, including women's legal rights in properties, reservation for women in local bodies and cost free travel in buses. Similarly, the D.M.K., in its Election manifesto gave the assurance that the women heads of eligible households will be provided Rs. 1,000 per month. As the month of September has special significance for the Dravidian movement, the scheme will be implemented from September this year as a part of the birth centenary of Dr.Kalaignar. This scheme will be inaugurated from September 15, the birth anniversary of Arignar Anna and the Government has allotted Rs. 7,000 crore in the current year's budget for the scheme, which will revolutionize the socio-economic lives of women.

Hon'ble Chief Minister's explanation about the Scheme in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

In his explanation about 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam, the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 27.03.2023, said the scheme has two purposes. It recognises the toil of the women folk, who work without any expectation. The second is that the amount Rs. 12,000 per annum will support and improve their livelihood of women, eradicate their poverty and help them to live with self-respect.

The amount, given as recognition to the social contribution of women, will be directly deposited in the bank account of the beneficiaries. Road-side traders, fisherwomen, construction workers, women running petty shops and those working for small wages in shops and houses, around one crore women are to get benefitted by this remarkable 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin said.

Review meeting chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on implementation of the scheme

The scheme is to be named after Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, who gave a share for women in property and reservation to them in local bodies. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, in connection with the implementation of the scheme, conducted a meeting on 07.07.2023 with

the Secretaries of various Departments, District Collectors and high officials of the State Government on ways to implement the scheme successfully, draw guidelines for selecting the beneficiaries, and discuss the participation of various departments in the implementation of the scheme and the responsibilities of the district administration.

At the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister advised the officials that those in the margins of society, those living on the road-side pavements, tribals, conservancy workers and the destitute should be the beneficiaries of the scheme. Even if they do not have ration cards, the officials should help them get ration cards, and include them in the list of beneficiaries. Not a single woman entitled to get the amount should be left out, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said.

Eligibility for getting the benefits of Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam

Only one beneficiary for one ration card is entitled to apply for the scheme; all the names found in the ration card will be considered as one family; the women head of the eligible family may apply for the scheme; in the ration card, the woman mentioned as family head will be considered as woman head of the family; if a man is mentioned as the head of the family, then his wife will be considered as the woman head of the family; If the wife of the family head is not mentioned in the card for any other reason, then any woman in the card will be taken as the woman head of the family; if there are more than one woman of more than 21 years of age, then any one of them will be considered for the scheme; The family can select any of the members for availing the scheme.

Unmarried single woman, widows and transgender heading a family will also be considered for the scheme.

Economic Criteria

Family income must be less than Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum; family land holding must not exceed more than 5 acres of wet land or 10 acres of dry land and the total conception of power must not be more than 3,600 units per annum.

Implementation procedure

The applicants for the scheme should register their applications only at the registration camp of the ration shops from which they are getting their monthly ration. Employees or volunteers of the ration shops are distributing the application forms for the scheme ward/ street-wise on fixed dates. The application distributed through the ration shop will have token number and the time and date on which the applicant should come to the camp. When the applicant appears on the date mentioned, the complete application will be registered in the Cell phone App specially designed by Tamil Nadu e-Governance. The applicant should bring their Aadhaar card, ration card, bank pass book and EB Card for verification.

The registration of application forms will be notified to the applicant through an SMS to her cell phone. All the applications will be processed electronically and the eligible and selected applicants will be informed. The selected beneficiary will be given Rs. 1,000 per month and the money will be directly deposited to her bank account.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the camp for registering applications at Dharmapuri

The Hon'ble Chief Minister

inaugurated the camp for registering the applications at the Thoppur Government Higher Secondary School, Dharmapuri. He inspected the registration of applications through bio-metric method and interacted with women who came for registering their applications. He also enquired about the occupations they were engaged in. Then he visited and inspected the ‘Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam’ medical camp.

In Dharmapuri District the registration of applications for the ‘Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai’ Thittam was done in two phases. In the first phase, the special camp was held for 2,21,484 ration card holders under the control of 494 Fair Price shops in Nallampalli, Kadathur, Karimangalam, Morappur and Palacode from 24.07.2023 to 04.08.2023.

In the second phase, it was held between 05.08.2023 to 16.08.2023 for 2,47,111 ration cards, attached to 554 Fair Price shops in the Dharmapuri, Eriyur, Harur, Pennagaram and Pappireddipatti Taluks.

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister at the function

My warm welcome to all of you.

Though the ‘Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai’ Thittam is meant for the entire State, I have come to Dharmapuri to inaugurate the scheme. As mentioned by the Hon’ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmer’s Welfare Thiru. M.R.K. Panneerselvam, it is in this district in 1989, 34 years ago, that the self-help group scheme was launched by the then Chief Minister Dr.Kalaignar.

The purpose of the self-help group is to make women live with self confidence and stand on their own feet without depending on others. The scheme was started first with women in the poor strata of society.

The seed that was sown by Dr.Kalaignar has gained gigantic proportions now, lighting the lives of lakhs of women in the State.

About 4,57,000 women self-help groups are now actively functioning in the State. Of this, 51,46,000 women are participating in these groups. Last year alone, Rs.25,642 crore was given as loan to 3, 90,633 groups. During 2006 to 2011, I was the Deputy Chief Minister as well as the Local Administration Minister. During that period, I had formed thousands of SHGs and I personally distributed loans to the groups through many functions. Now, I am thinking of those days.

Self Financing, Bank Loan & Loan Assistance

I would like to share another interesting event with you on this occasion. When I was the Deputy Chief Minister as well as the Local Administration Minister, I used to visit various districts to participate in Government functions. In all those functions, I ensured the participation of the SHGs. In those functions, I used to distribute revolving funds, bank loans and other loans as subsidies. In those functions not less than 5,000 and in some districts even 7,000, 8,000, 9,000 and 10,000 SHG members participated. In such functions, Ministers or officials used to hand over the welfare measures to 5 or 10 beneficiaries as a token and inform the beneficiaries that the welfare measures would be handed over to them after the function or they would be delivered at their doorstep. That was how it happened previously.

When I was the Local Administration Minister, I personally handed over the welfare measures to every beneficiary and left the meeting only after giving the welfare measure to the last beneficiary. The reason behind it is that if you ask the beneficiary to come to the office and collect it, some beneficiary might be reluctant to go to the office concerned. In some cases, they even forgot to receive the welfare measures. Some people might not even get it. To avoid such incidents, I adopted that practice. Even at that time, we used to give tokens and revolving funds from my hands. In one such incident, an old woman, held my hand and spoke. "We are all seated. Only when we are called, do we come up on stage to get it and go. But, I've been seeing you giving it to all of them since you came here. It is fine if it's just some ten or twenty, but it would take two or three hours to give it to 5,000 people. Aren't your legs aching due to standing for this long time? Take your seat and then give" said the women looking at me. At that time, I replied that I don't feel the pain when I see the happiness on their faces. I am mentioning this incident not to compliment myself but to underscore the fact that the benefits should reach the person concerned. This scheme has been started in the name of Dr.Kalaignar for womenfolk and it should reach them. That is why we are implementing the scheme.

I am really proud to see the growth of the scheme. It was in Dharmapuri that the seed for the scheme was sown.

Rural Livelihood Scheme

In this district, 1,69,248 women group members in 14,104 groups are functioning well. I am happy to announce that last year alone, in Dharmapuri District, Rs.751 crore has been given as loan to 8,625 groups.

We are starting the scheme there, with the belief that if we sow in Dharmapuri, it will grow in the entire State! That is why we are inaugurating the ‘Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai’ Thittam in Dharmapuri District. The first file I signed in my office at the St. George Fort, after the swearing in ceremony was for welfare measures and you are witnessing those welfare measures.

Thanthai Periyar was firm in his self-respect movement. Perarignar Anna was like a flame of knowledge in the renaissance of the race. Dr.Kalaignar was the architect of modern Tamil Nadu. We are following the path laid down by them to make Tamil Nadu a prosperous, strong state and a leading state in all fields, by announcing numerous welfare schemes, beneficial to people every day.

Free bus travel for women

The first file I cleared after the swearing in ceremony was cost-free bus travel in transport corporation buses for women. At that time, there was a severe financial crisis. The financial position of the Transport Corporations was very poor. Without worrying about those things, I announced the scheme to help the millions of women.

Daily about 36 lakh women are travelling at no cost in those buses. So far, 283 crore women have travelled without cost in these corporation buses. Due to this, women could save Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 every month. This is very, very important.

To enable girl students studying in Government schools to pursue their higher education, the Government is giving Rs. 1,000 per month as an incentive. Through this scheme, known as the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme, so far 2,11,506 girl students are benefiting in Tamil Nadu. In Dharmapuri District alone, 11, 252 girl students are getting the incentive money.

Breakfast Scheme

It was the Justice Party under Thiru. Thiyagarayar, that introduced the mid-day meal scheme in schools to encourage poor students to attend schools. After that Perunthalaivar Kamarajar extended the scheme and implemented it well. Then Dr. M.G.R. changed the name of the scheme as nutritious meal scheme, extended it and implemented it in an excellent manner. These things cannot be denied. At that time, there was a planned campaign that if Kalaignar came to power, he would scrap the scheme. But Kalaignar came to power. He provided a truly nutritious meal by including eggs in the scheme.

The breakfast scheme is based on this. The noon meal scheme is given to students in the afternoon after the students reach schools. As children start school very early from their house, they could not eat breakfast. Most of them are forced to avoid breakfast and attend school on an empty stomach. Due to this, the children could not concentrate on their studies. That is the reason for introducing of the breakfast scheme in schools.

So far, only 2 lakh students are having breakfast. The scheme had been limited to 2 lakh students in selected schools. From the coming month, it has to be extended to all schools and about 18 lakh students are to be given breakfast in schools.

The 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam is on the same lines. We have decided to name the scheme after Dr. Kalaignar as he had introduced many welfare schemes for the welfare of women.

Equal rights in property for women

A resolution on right to property for women was adopted at the Self-respect Reform conference led by Thanthai Periyar in Chengalpattu in 1929. That resolution became a reality only in 1989, after 60 years when Dr.Kalaignar passed a law in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in this connection. The law was a gift of the Dravidian Movement to the women. The next phase is the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam.

Apart from home responsibilities, women have to perform various duties for the welfare of their families. To give recognition to women's work, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in its election manifesto made the assurance that women heads of the family would be given Rs. 1,000 per month. Now we have started implementing what we promised.

Social Justice Scheme

In the Assembly session, I announced the

'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam for one crore women. This scheme, which is a model for other states, will help women in various stratas of society like fisherwomen, road-side vendors, house maids working in various houses, petty traders, and women working in petty shops. When the question was asked who would be benefited under the scheme, I replied that those who are in need of such assistance will be given.

For implementing the scheme, in the last year's budget, we allotted Rs.7,000 crore. This is the biggest and the greatest scheme in Tamil Nadu. Such a Scheme has not been implemented in Tamil Nadu. In the next year's budget, Rs. 12,000 crore will be allotted.

Socio-economic status of women

This scheme is to be implemented from September 15, the birth anniversary of our incomparable leader Perarignar Anna. After that the money will be deposited in the bank account of the beneficiary every month. Nobody can prevent it. There will be no chance of any misappropriation. Women need not consider it an allowance given by the Government. It is your right, women's right. You must keep this in your mind. The District Collectors should ensure that women in the margins of society, those living in road-side huts, destitute and conservancy workers get the benefit.

I am confident that the scheme will improve the socio-economic condition of women in the State. In the changing economic and social circumstances in society, the participation of women is nurturing the growth of their family, growth of the State and the nation.

To recognize the contribution of women, to give self-respect and economic independence to them, we have assembled

here to implement the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam.

When I announced the scheme, people said for political reasons that it is a false promise. I don't want to give a reply to them. They said that the DMK Government came to power by giving false promises. It would not be possible to implement the scheme. We would have implemented the scheme immediately after coming to power. But at that time, there was a severe financial crisis and we could not implement the scheme immediately. But today, we have managed the financial position to a certain extent, though not fully. So we have decided to implement the scheme. All attempts are being made to trivialise the scheme and scuttle its implementation. You need not worry about it. Once it has been announced, Stalin will see that it is implemented. People will know it.

Recognition to the hardwork by Women

Immediately after taking charge as the Chief Minister of the State, I told pressmen that we would do our duties to the satisfaction of those who had voted for us and also for those who did not vote for us. We will make the people who did not vote for us, realize their mistake.

The present scheme is a recognition of the labour of women who work continuously for the welfare of the family without rest or consideration of gain.

Women will get Rs. 12,000 per annum. This money will be useful for the women in their day to day life. This will be useful in eradicating property in the lives of women and will improve their living standards. This will help women lead a life of self-respect.

These two are the aims of the Dravidian Model Government. We have conceived the scheme based on the lessons we learnt from Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Dr. Kalaignar.

The application forms to the proposed beneficiaries were given to you 4 days back by the Government employees and volunteers. We have already publicized the fact that the completed application forms should be handed over to the special camps being conducted throughout the State. I have come to Dharmapuri to receive the completed applications. These applications will be registered by volunteers and self-help group members.

Special camps

Special camps have been set up throughout the State to receive the completed application forms. This has been advertised in all newspapers and also as Government press notes. Despite these announcements, I am reminding you. The completed applications would

be registered by the volunteers and SHG members.

The special camps will function all over the State from 24.07.2023 onwards. The camps will function from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. The applications will be received on holidays also including Saturdays and Sundays. We have made arrangements to receive the completed applications on holidays also. Ration card holders will be issued tokens on which time and date are mentioned. On that date you have to be present and hand over the completed application forms. If you fail to appear on the date specified for you, then it can be done on the last two days of the camp.

All applications will be processed and information will be intimated to the proposed beneficiary through cell phone.

The Government is very keen that not a single eligible woman should be left out of the scheme. So you need not worry about it. Many people are indulging in false propaganda. You need not worry about it. Those coming for registration to the camp should bring their Aadhaar cards, bank pass book and EB receipt book. It is my appeal that all eligible women should get the benefit.

Throughout the State, 35,925 camps have been set up and 68,190 volunteers have been deployed to register the applications. To guide the applicants in the camps, 35,925 assistant volunteers have been nominated.

These camps would function till August 28. I thank all the Government employees, volunteers, assistant volunteers, SHG members, Secretaries of various Government Departments, and the District administrations for their active involvement in the implementation of the scheme.

Everything to everyone is the motto of the Dravidian Model Government. That is the reason we are frequently talking about the growth of all departments, all districts and for every part of society.

The 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' Thittam is the symbol of social growth. The scheme will bring cheer to thousands of women heads of family. Your family will prosper. It is a revolution brought out by the single signature of the Government. This type of revolution will continue on and on and on. With this I conclude my speech.

Nandri, vanakkam.

News in Pictures

Birth anniversary of Maveeran Azhagumuthu Kone

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** paid floral tributes to a portrait of freedom fighter Maveeran Azhagumuthu Kone kept in front of his statue on the occasion of his birth anniversary near Egmore Railway Station, Chennai on 11.07.2023.

Birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** paid floral tributes to a portrait of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, kept near his statue on the occasion of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar's birth anniversary, on Education Development Day, at the Nehru Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Nanganallur, Chennai on 15.07.2023.

Death Anniversary of freedom fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** on the death anniversary of freedom fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai, paid floral tributes to his portrait placed near his statue at Thiru.Vi.Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai on 03.08.2023.

Unveiling the statue of Perasiriyar K.Anbazhagan

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** unveiled the statue of Perasiriyar K.Anbazhagan and also paid floral tributes to his portrait placed near the statue at Perasiriyar K. Anbazhagan Education Complex, newly established by the Department of School Education, at Nungambakkam, Chennai on 10.08.2023.

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes prizes at the conclusion of Chief Minister's trophy -2023 tournament

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, at the valedictory function of the Chief Minister's trophy 2023, held at the Nehru Indoor Stadium on 25.07.2023, handed over cups to 3 districts which secured the first three places in the medals tally in the Chief Minister's trophies 2023. On the occasion, he also handed over the incentive of Rs. 60 lakh to the 22 sports women of the Tamil Nadu women's football team that won at the 27th National Women Football Tournament.

*The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, presided the valedictory function of the Chief Minister's trophy 2023 on 25.07.2023*

The Hon'ble Chief Minister had directed that in the Chief Minister's trophy, 15 traditional sports, including Kabaddi and Silambam should be included, and that schools, colleges, persons from general category and Government employees should participate in the competitions. Based on that direction, the competitions were held in all districts between the first week of February this year and the end of March. About 3,76,000

sportspersons participated in the district-level competitions.

27,000 sportsmen and sportswomen who won in the district-level competitions were selected to participate in the state-level competitions. On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority, the state-level competitions were held from July 1 to July 25 in 17 venues at Chennai. Apart from the 27,000 sportspersons, trainers, umpires, employees and NCC volunteers and were all accommodated in 2000 rooms in private hostels and Government guest houses. Arrangements were also made to accommodate them in the hostels of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University complex at Melakottaiyur. They were all given food and transport facilities and medical facilities and police protection.

The Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department, the Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority, Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Transport Corporations, Greater Chennai Corporation, Health and Family Welfare and the Police Department jointly made excellent arrangements for the sports event. On all the days of the competition, food was provided three times a day including tiffin. Transport facilities for the sportspersons to reach the venue of the competition and proper protection through the police force at the venue of the events were arranged.

In the finals of the State-level competition for the Chief Minister's trophy 2023, more than 27,000 sportspersons belonging to 38 districts participated. Chennai District won the first place by winning 61 gold, 33 silver and 19 bronze, followed by Chengalpattu District, with 18 gold, 19 silver and 18 bronze and Coimbatore with 15 gold, 13 silver and 24 bronze medals.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the prizes to the district teams of Chennai, Chengalpattu and Coimbatore who won the top three places in the "Chief Minister's Trophy - 2023" and congratulated them.

These trophies were received, on behalf of the Chennai district team which had won first place, the District Collector Tmt. M. Aruna, I.A.S., on behalf of the Chengalpattu District which is the second-place winner, the District Collector Thiru. A.R.Rahul Nadh, I.A.S., and on behalf of the Coimbatore District which is the third-place winner, the Join Director/Project Director, Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM), Coimbatore, sports players, district Sports Officers and trainers.

Following this, the 22 players of the Tamil Nadu team which had won the golden trophy in the 27th Senior Women's National Football Championship 2023 took place in Amritsar, Punjab from June 12, 2023, to June 28, 2023, namely, T. Devi, N. Sowmiya, P. Dhanalakshmi, S. Kousalya, N. Lavanya, M. Pavithra, P. Durga, S. Shanmugapriya, M. Subhashini, M. Parameshwari, S. Priyadharshini, M. Malavika, M. Nandini, A. Karthika, K. Indumathi, R. Vinodhini, S. Aishwarya, R. Sandhiya, P. Sandhiya, S. Shanmugapriya, R. Yuvarani and N. Amsavalli were presented with a cheque for an incentive worth Rs. 60 lakh, of which Rs. 55 lakh was on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu and Rs. 5 lakh was by the TN Champions Foundation by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

To encourage sportspersons who emerge victorious in various competitions held at the international, and national level sports events, the Government of Tamil Nadu honours them with incentive prizes. In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu handed over incentive cheques to the tune of Rs.49.15 crore, to 1,684 sportspersons, who won in various competitions held between 26.06.2021 and 12.07.2023.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K. Stalin at the function

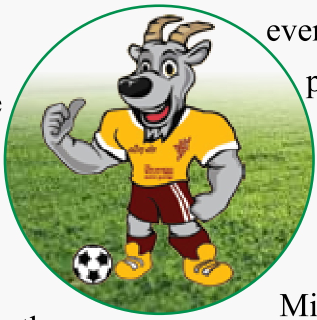
My warm regards to all of you.

I thank the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, for giving me an opportunity to participate in the function and give prizes to the winners of the various sports events. Normally, sports events are enjoyable to the participants and also to spectators. At the same time, the organizers have to be very responsible in conducting the events.

Some parents think as they look at their grown-up children who are still playful. Udhayanidhi has made his father proud with his efficient functioning as the Minister for the Sports Department.

Viewers get entertainment from sports. Sport competition organizers and participants must be responsible.

I thank the Secretary of the Sports Department, Member-Secretary and all others for conducting the events.



My memory goes back to the 44th Chess Olympiad, conducted in the Nehru Indoor Stadium.

In this stadium the inaugural and the valedictory functions of the Chess Olympiad were held and I hope that you all enjoyed them. In the cultural functions of the Olympiad, we introduced our traditional cultural events to the foreign dignitaries.

The appreciation we got did not belong to the Government of Tamil Nadu alone. But to the entire state. At that function I announced that the Chief Minister's trophy would be organized and 15 types of sports events would be conducted with the participation of schools, colleges, public, Government employees and differently-abled persons.

I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Udhayanidhi for successfully organizing the event. On May 8 last, I released the Veeran Logo and the song for the event. The events, which started on June 30, came to a conclusion today.

After Udhayanidhi Stalin took over as the Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, the Department itself was rejuvenated.

It is in this Nehru Indoor stadium that I took the oath as a Minister in the Cabinet of Dr.Kalaignar in 2006.

Like the sportspersons here, I also got an opportunity to participate in an event in this stadium. At that time I was the Local Administration Minister. After seeing the administration of the Department, Dr. Kalaignar said he was jealous of me, as I was able to implement many welfare schemes for the welfare of the people successfully.

In other words, Chief Minister Kalaignar said this highly in appreciation of the fact that many projects are being implemented well. In that way now I am proud to see the activities of the sports Department!

District and Zonal level competitions

There are many competitions going on every day. Minister Udhayanidhi is always with the athletes. I noticed that the Minister is proud of the Sports Department and the Sports Department is special because of the Minister Udhayanidhi.

These are all done not for publicity. Through the activities of the Department, we get these compliments.

In the Chief Minister’s Cup, we included the traditional sports like Silambattam and Kabadi also.

By participating in sports events, the sportsmen get physical agility and the spectators get mental satisfaction. Among the spectators, there definitely will be some future champions. This is the speciality of sport.

Earlier, sports activities were confined to schools and colleges. But now they have been extended to differently-abled persons, to the public and Government employees.

Earlier there were only 10 events. But now the number has been increased to 15 events. To conduct the events in an exemplary manner, we have formed District Council and State Councils. Sports like cricket, chess and beach Volleyball have been included.

The Government of Tamil Nadu allotted Rs. 50.86 crore for conducting the cup. Of this, Rs. 28.30 crore has been allotted as prize money. I am really happy that the tournaments have been held in a grand manner.

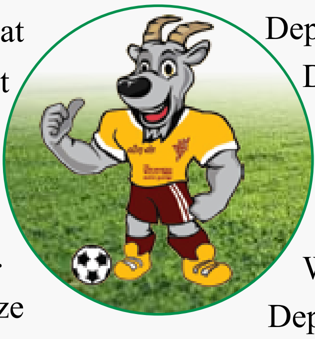
At the district-level tournaments, 3.70 lakh sportspersons participated. After that, regional level tournaments were held in which 27,054 persons participated. The State-level events were held with these players.

The Pride of the competition organizers

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority, the events were held in Chennai and 17 places. For the differently-abled sportspersons, the events were held in the Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University ground at Melakottaiyur. 3.70 lakh differently-abled sportspersons participated, which I consider a triumph for the Chief Minister’s Cup. In the sporting events, the Department and the Sports Development

Authority are the major winners, irrespective of the winners of various events.

The number of sportspersons who came to participate is really a great compliment to the organizers. That is why I want to congratulate them.



I hope you know about the prize money in the tournament. This is the biggest event as the prize money is Rs. One lakh for an individual champion and in the case of a team, it is Rs.9 lakh.

Special arrangements were made to bring the 27,000 winners at the district-level tournaments to Chennai. Over 2,000 air-conditioned rooms were arranged for their accommodation. Over 72 buses were pressed into service for the participants to commute between the venue of the events and their places of stay.

Team Spirit

To conduct the events in a grand manner, the Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department, Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority, the Sports University, State Transport Corporations, Greater Chennai Corporation, Health and Family Welfare Department and the Police Department co-ordinated successfully. This is most important.

In the sports field they say there should be team spirit. Co-ordination among various departments is the most team spirit. This spirit is required for organizing the sports tournament. In this way, the Government created a congenial atmosphere. I congratulate all those who participated in the tournament at the district level.

As I said earlier, within a short period, i.e. within 4 months, we successfully conducted the 44th Chess Olympiad.

Foreign participants in the Chess Olympiad thanked us for our hospitality. We gave the same respect for international players as well as for national players.

Why I am telling this here is that the responsibility of the Government does not end with distributing prizes to winners. The Government should invite the players properly, show respect to them and create a congenial atmosphere for them. This is also the responsibility of the Government. This was done well by the Sports Department.

I also congratulate the participants of the events held at the district level. Many might not have won medals. But that is not important. Participation is much more important. The real victory in sports is in participating and making an effort to win.

You all know, I am personally interested in sports. That is why despite my official duties I have participated in this function.

Dr.Kalaignar too was very much interested in sports and was a great sports fan. That is why he encouraged sportspersons.

Sportsmanship

He personally complimented athlete Shanthi for winning the Silver Medal in the 2006 Asian Games. Dr. Kalaignar was very much interested in witnessing good matches. According to him, there should be honesty and values in sports.

We have to learn a lot from Dr.Kalaignar. He took both victory and defeat equally and fought relentlessly. This is called 'sportsmanship' in the sports arena. He was a statesman in politics. There was sportsmanship in his approach in the game of politics.

I appeal to you to approach sports with ethical values, and congratulate you all for participating in this competition and winning medals in various games.

You must secure more victories in future matches and participate in various national-level sports. Not only you as sportspersons, but we too are striving for INDIA!

Our team is also INDIA and we are working with team spirit for the victory of INDIA.

I appeal to Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin and other Sports Department officials, that even as you encourage sportspersons, you should nurture the love for sports among students.

If we do like that, the youth power of Tamil Nadu will grow in an incomparable manner. With this I conclude my speech.

Nandri, vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister ensures swift action on petitions by Mudhalvarin Mugavari Department

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** chaired a review meeting of the 'Mudhalvarin Mugavari' Department - 13.07.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 13.07.2023 reviewed the working of the 'Mudhalvarin Mugavari' Department. At the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the action taken on petitions received by the Hon'ble Chief Minister during his district tours and the petitions received by the Department.

About 3.42 lakh petitions had been received by the Mudhalvarin Mugavari Department, of which solutions were found for 2.94 lakh petitions, which is 86 % of the petitions. The petitions, based on the character of the issues they raise, are classified as A,B, C and D. The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the petitions classified on this basis.

As a greater number of petitions received have to do with the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Home, Prohibition and Excise Department, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, the Secretaries of these Departments were directed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to take special care in disposing of the petitions.

Again, while receiving calls through the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Assistance Cell, through the toll free 1100 number, petitions should be registered based on the kind of

request of the caller, a caller should be informed about the status of the original petition if any, petitioners should be contacted through telephone to know the quality of service and the feedback about various welfare schemes.

During the review, the Hon'ble Chief Minister contacted some of the petitioners through telephone to get confirmation that they had received help from the Government. One of them belonged to Thanjavur, and confirmed the receipt of Rs. 22 lakh from the Government for the Liver Transplantation of his child. The operation was performed on 19.06.2023. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also heard about the receipt of Rs. 50,000 by a girl of Thovalai Taluk in Kanniyakumari District for continuing her graduate studies.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated Dharmapuri District's Pennagaram Tahsildar, Thiru. H. Shaukat Ali and the DSP of Alangulam in Tenkasi, Thiru. J. Jayapal for their swift action in disposing petitions. He also advised the officials to be considerate while dealing with the petitioners.

September 16: Birth anniversary of Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar

A leader who raised his voice for the most backward

I have known Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar for many years. I know him very well not only during his time as a Minister but also from the time he was the leader of the Tamil Nadu Toilers Party in the old South Arcot District before he took charge as a Minister.

I know very well how close my dear friend and late Agriculture Minister. Govindasamy is to Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar. When Govindaswamy was one of the candidates of the Peasants and Workers Party, I went to do election work for him and at the same time, did election campaign for Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar also. I also know how very close Padaiyachiyar was to Arignar Anna. Similarly, my dear friend, the late Mathiazhagan was the ambassador between Anna and Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar and was a friend who exchanged many political matters with him. Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar grew up in such a close-knit environment, lived here and never disappeared from our thoughts.

A voice arose in Tamil Nadu that the very backward sections must be raised up. It was Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar who raised that voice as a battle cry and as a demand for justice. It is my duty to tell you that it is Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar, who we see standing here as a statue, who raised that demand first.

After that, the demand was fulfilled only when I took charge as the Chief Minister in 1989.

Speech of the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar after unveiling the statue of Ramasamy Padaiyachiyar in Chennai, on 21.02.2001.

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches 3-day 'Velaan Sangamam' at Tiruchirappalli

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated Agriculture Exhibition stalls at the 'Velaan Sangamam' - 27.07.2023

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, inaugurated Agriculture Exhibition stalls at the 'Velaan Sangamam' on 27.07.2023 sponsored by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, at Tiruchirappalli and distributed awards for those who excelled in the production of traditional rice varieties.

In the budget demand for the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, it was announced that a State-level agriculture exhibition would be conducted at Tiruchirappalli to create awareness among farmers, college students, public, food processors and exporters about new technologies, new varieties and value-added technologies.

As a follow up measure, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open 'Velaan Sangamam - 2023', an exhibition on high-yielding varieties, traditional rice varieties, new agriculture techniques for increasing the income of farmers, solar powered gadgets, on field demonstrations, value added methods, techniques, seminars on agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and sericulture. This exhibition is being held in Tiruchirappalli Care Engineering College from July 27 to July 29.

The exhibition, sponsored by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, has the participation of the Horticulture and Plantation Crops Department, Agriculture Marketing and Agri Business Department, Agriculture Engineering Department, Sugar Department, Seed Certification and Organic Certification Department, Animal Husbandry Department, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, Tamil Nadu Milk Producers Co-operative Federation (Aavin), Handlooms Department and Tamil Nadu Food Processing and Agriculture Export Development Corporation, Sericulture Department and Co-optex and the research wings of the Union Government, co-operative institutions and Food Corporations of the Union Government, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Tamil Nadu Veterinary University and Fisheries University.

In the exhibition, various private enterprises such as micro irrigation units, fertilizer manufacturing units, agriculture machinery units, sugar mills, seeds companies, and banks, in co-ordination with Government Departments will exhibit their products.

Apart from this, schemes meant for farmers, such as Kalaignar's All-village Integrated Agriculture Development Project, e-agriculture, organic farming, millets cultivation, coconut, plant protection measures, traditional grain varieties, Green house and Vertical farming, aquatic garden, terrace garden, agriculture mechanization, and value-added products are to be prominently explained in the exhibition.

Seminars addressed by experts are to be conducted to help farmers know about agriculture-based new technologies and the welfare schemes implemented by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department. To top it all, seeds, seedlings, organic fertilizers, agriculture inputs, value-added products, downloading of Uzhavan App, issuance of soil fertility cards

and portal are to be explained at the exhibition. About 50,000 farmers are expected to participate in the exhibition.

After declaring open the exhibition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed prizes to three farmers who achieved the maximum paddy productivity in the State. The First Prize was won by Thiru. Rangasamy. His wife, Tmt. Veerammal received the prize of Rs. One lakh from the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The second prize of Rs. 75,000 was won by Thiru. M.Saravanan of Chengalpattu and the third prize of Rs. 50,000 by Thiru. Moorthy of Erode District.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the function

First of all I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

I am really happy to participate in this green function, as it freshens the mind. I got the same feeling when I participated in the exhibition sponsored by the Farmer Producer Organisations, a few days back.

It is really a great sight to see vegetables and fruits in one place. I thank the Hon'ble Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Thiru. M.R.K.Panneerselvam, for giving me this opportunity.

In political forums, we call Thiru. M.R.K. Paneerselvam as the son of a tiger. After seeing his performance as Agriculture Minister, he has become a farmer's son.

He has made the Department one of the best. You all know that after the formation of the present Government, we are all working for all-round development of all departments. Of these, the Agriculture Department achieved the best growth. Unlike other departments, the Agriculture Department cannot grow instantly. For other departments, finance alone is enough for growth. But in the Agriculture Department, along with finance, water resources and necessary inputs are required.

Water availability gave a helping hand after we came to power. Rainfall also helped the farmers. The Agriculture Department distributed the required inputs at the correct time. Due to all this, productivity increased. The area under cultivation increased. The soil became moist, farmers were happy. That is the reason we are organizing such a 'Velaan Sangamam'.

As mentioned by the Hon'ble Minister Thiru. M.R.K.Panneerselvam, this Government presented a separate budget for the Agriculture Department immediately after coming to power. We have initiated many new schemes.

- Kalaignar's All Village integrated agriculture development programme,
- Chief Minister's rain-fed land development scheme and
- Tamil Nadu Mission on Sustainable Green Cover in Farm Lands,
- Modernization of irrigation systems, Agriculture technology management agency, improving soil fertility and
- Making new entrepreneurs of our youth. In line with such schemes, this exhibition has been conducted.

After the formation of this Government, we created a record in food grains production in the State. The production has increased to 119.97 lakh metrictonnes in 2021-2022, a record, after a gap of six years due to implementation of the various schemes.

Last year, that is 2022, we opened the Mettur Reservoir well in advance for the Kuruvai cultivation and due to this about 5.36 lakh acres were brought under Kuruvai cultivation. This is a record in the last 47 years.

The Government is giving importance to the demands of farmers, to enable them make use of ground water for cultivation. We have given 1.50 lakh new power connections to farmers in the last two years.

In continuation of this, we are going to give another 50,000 new power connections in this function. Kalaignar's All village Integrated Farmers development programme has been implemented in 5,201 village panchayats. This year, it is going to be implemented in 2, 504 more village panchayats.

This year (2023-2024), we are going to celebrate the International Year of Millets. You all know that we are running a Millet Mission.

To improve the standard of living of Adi Dravidars and Tribals, we have given an additional 20 per cent subsidy, in addition to the existing subsidy. For this we have allotted Rs. 11 crore as a special scheme.

We have launched an App by name, 'Tamil Mann Valam'. Already, 'Uzhavan' App is under use. As the first state in the country to help the Government welfare schemes reach the beneficiary, we have developed a portal called 'GRAINS'.

We have given an additional incentive of Rs. 100 for the fine varieties of paddy and Rs. 75 for other paddy varieties above the Minimum Support Price of the Union Government. Last year an incentive of Rs. 376.63 crore was given for paddy procurement. Taking into consideration the interest of sugar cane farmers, we have given Rs. 195 per tonne as incentive price over and above the basic price of Rs. 2,821 per tonne.

We have encouraged cultivation of fruits and vegetables by farmers. For the judicious use of water, we have installed micro irrigation systems.

We encourage mechanization of farming operations and production of value-added products of cultivated products. The Government has been implementing the setting up of agricultural machinery hiring centres and has implemented the e-Vaadagai mobile app for renting agricultural machinery.

Regulated markets, Uzhavar Sandais and basic Infrastructure required for value addition to produce are also provided to farmers.

The Government is encouraging the Farmers Producers Organisations and at present more than 1,000 FPOs are functioning in the State. In the last 2 years, more than 6.50 lakh farmers have benefited through the 157 National Farmers e-markets in the country. In Karur, Nagapattinam, Sivagangai and Krishnagiri, we have opened 3 new Agricultural Colleges and a Horticulture College, at a cost of Rs.40 crore.

In Bhavanisagar of Erode District we have opened a Turmeric Research Centre. The Organic Agriculture Department of the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University has been upgraded as an Organic Agriculture Research Centre.

After the formation of the present Government, we have given one lakh free power connections and then an additional 50,000 connections. Now, we are going to give an additional 50,000 connections.

It was the former Chief Minister, Dr.Kalaignar, who gave free power connections to farmers for agricultural operations from the

year 1990. During the last 30 years if it is possible for the farmers to raise crops at all times, it is due to Dr.Kalaignar.

A certain party ruled the State in the last 10 years. During that period, only 2.20 lakh agricultural power connections were given to farmers. But in the last 2 years we have given 1.50 lakh power connections. "We do what we say! We say what we do!" said Thalaivar Kalaignar. "We do even what's not said! We do even without saying!" is my statement.

For the Farmers Producers Organisations, we organized the Agri Marketing Festival in Chennai and now we have inaugurated 'Velaan Sangamam' in Tiruchirappalli.

It is necessary to conduct agriculture-based exhibitions just as we organize exhibitions for machinery, industries and textiles. The Agriculture Department is growing fast and this has to be publicized through exhibitions.

New technologies, new varieties, agriculture machinery and value addition techniques are growing rapidly. Basic information about these new initiatives must reach farmers, the public and agriculture college students. And the best way for that is to conduct such exhibitions.

If productivity is to be increased, farmers should get remunerative prices for their produce. We should introduce new techniques in agriculture.

- New high yielding varieties,
- traditional rice varieties,
- modern techniques to increase revenue,
- modern agriculture gadgets,
- solar-operated machines,
- practical demonstration of new methods and techniques.
- To impart these techniques to farmers, we need 'Sangamams' like this.
- In this Sangamam, apart from the Agriculture Department other departments have also participated. Departments of the Union Government have also arrived. Boards, Universities and private institutions have also come. This has made it a very large gathering. In all sectors, there is a need for such co-operative efforts.

Though Agriculture is part of our culture and way of life, it is yet to become a profit-earning profession. It should be made into one.

Farmers should not remain producers alone. They must become sellers. Only with this motive,

Dr.Kalaignar launched 'Uzhavar Sandhai', when he was the Chief Minister of the State.

As the next phase, we started Farmer Producer Organisations during our rule. For these centres, we have ensured capital assistance and credit facilities. We have made arrangements for marketing their products in corporation malls and for that we have created a federation. It is a good advancement for the farmers in the agriculture field.

Farmers should know about technology and the officials should know agriculture. If these two join, then agriculture will become a commercial proposition. For that, such Sangamams will surely help.

Agriculture should be practiced not only by those who have land but also by other people interested in agriculture. There is no other thing which is costlier than land. Agriculturists who own such lands should be happy.

The farmers must be aware of the technology. The officers must be aware of agriculture. The combination of these two makes agriculture a business. Exhibitions such as these would form the basis for that.

I appeal to you to take such exhibitions to all Districts. Agriculture knowledge is required not only for farmers but for all.

Yesterday when I reached Tiruchi, I saw a piece of news in a newspaper. I enquired about it with the officials and the Minister concerned. The news was about the demand for the extension of a special package scheme for Kuruvai crops up to August 15. This demand had been placed by the Delta farmers to the Government. I consulted with the officials and immediately accepted the farmers' demand. I am happy to announce that the last date for availing the Kuruvai Package Scheme has been extended to August 15.

Once again I thank you all for giving me this opportunity to participate in this function.

Scheme for issuance of 50,000 additional free agricultural power connections for farmers

The Hon'ble Chief Minister at the 'Velaan Sangamam-2023', sponsored by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, inaugurated 50,000 additional free power connections for the farmers, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Power Production and Distribution Corporation. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister issued orders for free power connections to 12 farmers.

To improve agricultural productivity in the State and thereby raise the standard of living of farmers, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, in the budget demand for the Energy Department for the year 2021-2022, announced that one lakh new free power connections would be given to farmers. As a part of the announcement, at a function at the Anna Centenary Library in Chennai on 23.09.2021, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the one lakh free agricultural power connections scheme to farmers, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Power Production and Distribution Corporation.

In continuation of this, in the budget demand for the year 2022-2023, it was announced that an additional 50,000 free agricultural power connections would be given. At a function on 11.11.2022 at Aravakurichi in Karur District, sponsored by the Tamil Nadu Power Production and Distribution Corporation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the additional free 50,000 power connections for farmers.

With the interest of farmers foremost in mind, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, in the Energy demand for the year 2023-2024 announced that an additional 50,000 free power connections would be given for farmers. As per the announcement, the scheme of sanctioning additional 50,000 power connections was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the 'Velaan Sangamam-2023' function at Tiruchirappalli. As a token he issued orders for connections to 12 farmers.

Inspection in Urban Health Centre at Periyamilaguparai, Tiruchirappalli District

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the Urban Health Centre at Periyamilaguparai in Tiruchirappalli District on 26.07.2023 and personally enquired about the treatment given to the patients and the position of medicine stocks at the Centre. Later, he visited the Tiruchi General Hospital and enquired from the women patients at the maternity ward about the

treatment given to them. He tested the quality of food items prepared at the hospital kitchen.

At the first year anniversary of the Government on 07.05.2022, in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that with the objective of reducing crowding of patients at the Government General Hospitals and to provide them medical facilities near their homes, it has been planned to open Urban Health Centres in Urban areas, similar to primary health centres and sub-centres in rural areas. He announced that 708 urban health centres would be set up in 21 Corporations, including in Greater Chennai and 63 Municipality areas.

In the first phase, 500 urban health centres, at a cost of Rs. 125 crore in corporation and municipal areas were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister through video conferencing on 06.06.2023.

This Urban Health Centre is one among them.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister made a surprise visit to this centre and reviewed the medical records and medicine stocks at the Centre. He also enquired from the doctors at the centre about the treatment given to patients and also met a few patients and asked them whether they were happy with the treatment.

At this centre, the Hon'ble Chief Minister enquired about the facilities available for various patients. At the Centre, treatment is given for the maternity and post delivery patients, for children and adolescents, family welfare and family planning, for leprosy patients under the National Health Plan, outpatients and for minor diseases, depression patients, ENT treatment, dental treatment, facilities for geriatric patients and emergency treatment for accident victims.

After inspecting the Urban Health Centre, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the Government general hospital with 1,832 beds at Tiruchirappalli. He enquired from the doctors and patients about the treatment given to the patients and the facilities available at the hospital. He enquired from the women patients about the treatment given to them and asked them whether the food supplied at the hospital is of good quality. He also visited the hospital kitchen and tasted the food given to the patients. He also asked about the food items prepared for the patients.

13 lakh students provided skill training in one year under Naan Mudhalvan Scheme

Hon'ble Chief Minister participates in triumphant first anniversary Celebrations

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** participated in the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme first anniversary celebrations – 07.08.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, participated in the first anniversary celebrations of the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme at the Nehru Indoor Stadium on 07.08.2023, organized on behalf of the Special Programme Implementation Department. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the occasion, declared open the 'Skill Achievement' exhibition, set up by the engineering and arts college students trained under the scheme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also extended the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme to the Polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes, inaugurated Hackathon, the website of Naan Mudhalvan, inaugurated new graduate courses on vocational subjects like footwear technology, readymade garment production and inventory management, Kalaignar 100 website and distributed an incentive of Rs.25,000 each to 10 youths who completed the First Grade examination of the

Union Public Service Commission, to increase the Tamil Nadu youths participation in the UPSC.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister in March 2022, inaugurated the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme for engineering, science and arts college students who are entering into higher studies. The scheme enables youth to get the skill training required by the industries.

The Scheme, started with the long-term perspective of enabling students to learn Data Engineering, Genomic Mastery, PCR Technology, Plant Tissue Culture, Algal Technology, Graphic Design, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Internet of Things, Cloud Computing, Industry 4.0, Cyber Security, Big Data Analytics, Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Smart Energy Grid, BlockChain Development, Sustainable Building Design, Electrical Vehicles, and Chat GPT, 5G Technology and get employment. In the first year of the scheme 13 lakh students of Engineering and Arts and Science Colleges in the State got the skill training.

The scheme received good response from the students. During the academic year 2022-2023, the total number of engineering and arts and science college students, who completed skill training is 13,14,519. Of this, the number of final year students of engineering colleges who have applied for jobs is 85,053 and the number of final year Arts and Science Colleges who applied for job is 99,230 students. Of these, 65,034 students in engineering and 83,223 arts and science college students got employment orders.

In the exclusive employment camps for Naan Mudhalvan Scheme, 20,082 students from the Arts and Science Colleges, and 5,844 students from engineering colleges, totally 25,926 students got employment. At the one-year victory celebration, the

Hon’ble Chief Minister also declared open the exhibition designed by students trained under the scheme. The exhibition highlights the industrial skill of trained students in technical design. Later, the Hon’ble Chief Minister interacted with the ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ scheme trained students.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also extended the scheme to polytechnic and ITI students, taking into consideration the future of students of technical education. The Hon’ble Chief Minister also inaugurated the portal for ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ for the benefit of students. This portal is meant for finding solutions to the challenges facing the District and Government administration in providing services to the poor and to exhibit the creative skill of students and their Startup skills.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also inaugurated graduate Vocational courses in Anna University. The course is meant to encourage budding entrepreneurs in garment manufacturing, leather technology, and Inventory management.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also launched the Kalaignar -100 portal to commemorate the centenary of Dr. Kalaignar.

To increase the participation of students belonging to Tamil Nadu in the UPSC Examinations and to encourage their success, the Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced an incentive of Rs.25,000 each to the successful student of the First Grade Examinations. The Hon’ble Chief Minister handed over the cheques for the incentive to 10 successful students. One of them was Thiru. Vignesh Kumar, a differently-abled student.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also handed over mementos to the companies, which are associated with the ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ Scheme and trained the students, under the social responsibility scheme of big companies.

Following this, in the presence of the Hon’ble Chief Minister Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Tata Power Solar, Tata Electronics, Ernst and Young, TVS

Supply Chain Solutions, Wheels India, Pinnacle Infotech, KGISL, Technosmile, Teamlease, Infonet Comm, Wadhwani Foundation and Tamil Nadu Academy of Construction for giving the special skill training and to provide employment opportunities to the trained students.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over appointment orders to the youth, who were trained under the scheme and selected by various frontline companies.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K. Stalin on the occasion

I welcome you all on this happy occasion. Today is the birth anniversary of Dr. Kalaignar, who ruled the State five times and was the architect of modern Tamil Nadu.

I am launching the portal for Kalaignar as part of his birth centenary celebrations. I have mentioned this in the Murasoli daily today. I addressed him and said, "I am doing what you would have done if you had been alive". In that way, 'Naan Mudhalvan' is a Scheme that Dr.Kalaignar would have liked. 'Naan Mudhalvan Scheme' is my dream scheme. After the advent of the DMK Government in the State, there has been growth in all sectors. All sections of people are growing. This scheme is responsible for great changes among the youth. After the advent of the DMK Government, many industrialists are ready to invest in the State. At that time, I happened to interact with many industrialists. Most of them said they found it difficult to find qualified and skilled youth to work in their companies. The 'Naan Mudhalvan Scheme' was conceived with this in mind.

This scheme was launched on my birthday last year (March, 1, 2022) to upgrade the youth and students of Tamil Nadu in education, intelligence, thinking capacity and versatility. From this you can understand how close to my heart this scheme is.

My earnest desire is to make the youth of Tamil Nadu the foremost in the world. Certain schemes may serve to fulfill the particular need of a time. Other schemes may serve their purpose for a year. But schemes like 'Naan Mudhalvan Scheme' will be useful generation after generation.

When I announced the scheme, I took a vow that the scheme should be properly implemented and it should serve the purpose for which it has been planned. I am a person who tells my ministerial colleagues and officials that no scheme is complete upon its announcement. Only in its full implementation lies its victory. In this manner, the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme has completed one year. I stand before you, my heart full of joy and my expression that reflects my happiness. The event is taking place only to announce the triumphant victory of the scheme that is making for a victorious young Tamil Nadu.

For this I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare, Sports Development and Special Schemes Implementation, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin. He has been implementing the 'Naan Mudhalvan Scheme' successfully, like he has been doing for the Sports Department. I also congratulate Tmt. Innocent Divya, I.A.S., and other department officials for their support to the Minister.

Earlier, we planned to give skill training to 10 lakh youths per annum. But in the first year itself, we have given training to 13 lakh students. This is the biggest achievement of the scheme. That those who were trained under the scheme got good employment opportunities is the second achievement.

The skill development training is given in 445 engineering colleges. About 85,053 Engineering graduates applied for various posts. Of them 65,034 students got good placements. I am really happy to announce this at this meeting.

Similarly, the skill training was given in 861 Arts and Science Colleges. 99,230, who were trained under the scheme have applied for jobs in various companies. Of them, 83,223 students got placements.

Private employment camps were organized through the Naan Mudhalvan Scheme also. Through these 5,844 engineering students and 20,082 arts and science college students got employment. This is the victory of the scheme.

When I inaugurated the scheme, I said that it was the golden day of my life. Yes it was a

golden day. That it was so was confirmed today. I was made the Chief Minister by the people of the State. This scheme was conceived to make all students as Mudhalvan. In the last one year more than one lakh students have been trained.

To give guidance on higher education to students who have completed their schooling, we have been implementing the Kalloori Kanavu Scheme in all the districts. About 75,000 students have benefited under the scheme. To encourage students to take up higher education, we have ‘Uyarvukku Padi’ Scheme. Through this Scheme, 2.50 lakh students have benefited.

Through Naan Mudhalvan Upskilling platform, 25 lakh students have benefited. The portal has been viewed over 4 crore times. All this goes to show how a single scheme has created an intellectual revolution in the minds of the student community. The Scheme has been extended to polytechnics and industrial training institutes. It has ensured the necessary human resource for any MNC company starting opening an industry in the State.

The scheme has changed the notion that you will get employment only if you study in the best college in the State headquarters. The skill of the students has been improved by the scheme, in whatever college or whichever district they might have studied. This skill training enables them to participate in the employment camps organized by the front-line companies and get good placements.

According to a statistic, the total number of youths in Tamil Nadu in the 18 to 35 age group , is 2.31 crore 31. That means 33 per cent. This youth power should be exploited.

‘Tamil Nadu Skill Competition’ is being held repeatedly. This is the biggest opportunity for the students to prove their skills during their studies. This competition is designed to enable students in all schools, Government ITIs, Polytechnic colleges, arts and science colleges and engineering colleges. Till now, 58,000 students from all over the State have registered for the competition to be held next month. According to statistics, provided by the National Skill Development Corporation, which

coordinates the competition at the national level, Tamil Nadu registered the maximum number of registrations for the competition.

Education is not confined to degrees, it should be skill-oriented. Similarly employment should not be confined to salaries. It should be skill-based also. Always remember that I, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin, am here as the Chief Minister of the State to create such a capacity in you. I will experience the greatest pride when you say that you have attained your position due to the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme. At this moment, I have to record sad news also.

In the UPSC Examinations for the I.A.S. and I.P.S. posts, the pass percentage of students of Tamil Nadu is decreasing day by day. The percentage, which was more than 10 per cent in 2016, has come down to 5 per cent. This worries me a lot. This should change and we should change it .

This is the reason for the training programme for UPSC aspirants, being included as a part of the Scheme. Economic status should not be a hindrance to UPSC aspirants. For that, recently we made 2 announcements. Every year Rs. 7,500 will be given for 10 months to 1,000 students who prepare for the First Grade examination of the UPSC. Those who succeed in the First Grade Examination will be given an incentive of Rs. 25,000.

This monetary assistance will be useful for the UPSC aspirants. More than that, if they become I.A.S. or I.P.S. officers, it will be a great honour to Tamil Nadu.

In addition to this we are giving integrated free training courses to more than 5,000 candidates in various districts for bank, railways and Union Government recruitment examinations. People from all strata of society should occupy the posts and be empowered.

Social Justice at all places is the goal of the Dravidian Model Government. All these schemes are meant for that. I am here to provide everything that you need; the Government too is there only for that. All that I ask of you is that you must make use of all the opportunities fully.

Study, Study, Study…during the period of your studies your attention should not waver.

Thalaivar used to put forward this nugget as if it were another Kural:

The doubt whether one can achieve something, is the hesitation that precedes failure.

The assertion that I will succeed is the first step to victory.

Keep this in mind; only those who tried, succeeded in their attempts.

I greet you not only as the Chief Minister of the State, but as a member of your family and as your father.

This Stalin is here to lay the path for the achievement of your dreams. You should all become role models for the future generations.

‘Tamil Nadu Day’ function observed on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu

‘Tamil Nadu Day – July 18’ was celebrated on 18.07.2023 in the Tiruvalluvar Arangam at Presidency College, Chennai, on behalf of the Tamil Development and Information Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu. At the function, the Hon’ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan, paid floral tributes to the portraits of Tamil Annai, Perarignar Anna and Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

The Hon’ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity handed over cash prizes and certificates to school students who won in various competitions conducted at the State-level in connection with the Tamil Nadu Day celebrations. On behalf of the Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Department, the Hon’ble Minister also handed over Computer Tamil awards to the winners. At the function, the Hon’ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Thiru. Ma. Subramanian also participated and gave a special address.

The Hon’ble Ministers handed over the Tamil Nadu Day–July 18 Special issue to the school and college students who took part in the

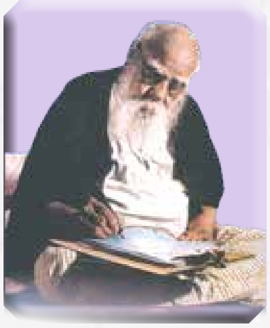
awareness rally conducted in connection with the Day. A short film on Tamil Nadu Day was screened.

At the function, the Presidency College Principal, Dr.R.Raman, welcomed the gathering and the Secretary of the Tamil Development and Information Department, Dr.R.Selvaraj I.A.S, gave the presidential address. Thiru. Aazhi Senthilnathan spoke on 'Ezhuga Tamil Nadu', former Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University, Dr.M.Rajendran on 'Vazhga Tamil Nadu', and Social Justice Monitoring and Protection Committee Chairman, Thiru. Suba Veerpandiyan on 'Valarga Tamil Nadu'.

The Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P.Saminathan, handed over the Chief Minister's 'Computer Tamil Award' for the Year 2021 to N.S.Nana aka Narayanan and for the year 2022 to A.Arokiadass and offered them a shawl. The award consists of a cheque for Rs. 2 lakh, a gold medalion and a commendation certificate.

In connection with the festival, state-level oratorical and essay competitions were conducted. Selvi R. Gangasri of Thoothukudi District, who won the first prize in Essay Competition was given Rs.50,000 and a certificate of merit, second prize of Rs. 30,000 and a commendation certificate went to Selvi E.Arshia of Tiruvannamalai District, and the third prize of Rs.20,000 and commendation certificate went to Selvi J.Sebastian Ahalya of Dindigul District.

In the oratorical contest, Selvi. K.Sivamuthulakshmi of Tenkasi District won the first prize of Rs. 50,000 and a commendation certificate, Selvan T.Tamizhavan of the Nilgiris District, won the second prize of Rs. 30,000 and Appreciation Certificate and Selvi M.Kokila of Dharmapuri District got the Third Prize of Rs. 20,000 and a certificate.



Birth anniversary of Thanthai Periyar - September 17

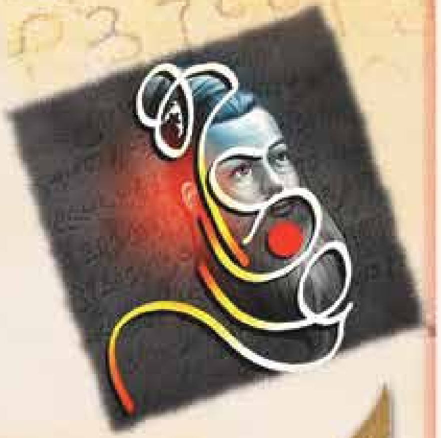
Periyar fought for social liberation

Thanthai Periyar, who fully followed and implemented the policies and principles of Annal Gandhi Adigal in Tamil Nadu, was also responsible for the Congress Party striking firm roots in Tamil Nadu, for people wearing Khadi clothes and for the eradication of untouchability.

Thanthai Periyar felt it was not enough to get freedom from British rule alone but also from untouchability, ignorance, poverty and language domination. Despite his failing health, he continued his fight for freedom from social evils till the age of 95 when he breathed his last.

He fought not only for political freedom but also for community liberation throughout his life. He was a fighter for social liberation like no other. Social reformers would write and speak against social evils. They would be vexed that nothing changes. But Thanthai Periyar alone created a movement to implement his policies. He nominated Arignar Anna as his commander and through him witnessed incomparable achievements in the social front.

- From the book Vaikom Satyagraha and Gandhi...



Essay

Tamil literature and competitive examinations

- **Dr.Sankara Saravanan**

Joint Director, Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation

The Tamil Language paper is compulsory for all posts in the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission examinations. This language paper is a qualifying paper. This means that the candidate's other papers will be valued only if the examinee gets minimum marks of 40 per cent in this qualifying paper. Similarly in the Group IV and Group II Examinations, in the General Tamil paper, questions are asked from Tamil Grammar and Literature, especially from the poems, texts and grammar portions of school text books. Though the questions are based on the syllabus released by the Commission, to answer questions the candidate must have a fair knowledge of details provided by the Tamil textbooks from 6th to 10th standards. If some portions in the syllabus are not found in the text books, then they should be studied from other books or on the internet.

The compulsory Tamil Paper of the Group II Examination has been set to be answered in an elaborate manner. For that, the Commission has designed a separate syllabus.

In the Union Public Service Commission Examinations, candidates under the compulsory language paper category, have to select the Tamil language. That paper is also a qualifying paper. Though it is qualifying paper, it cannot be taken lightly. Only if you have studied the Tamil language at the school level, it is possible to get minimum marks in the paper.

At this juncture, I would like to share the experience of Sujitha, one of my students. She is an intelligent girl and belongs to Tirunelveli District. She succeeded in the I.A.S. preliminary examinations and wrote the main examinations. In the main examinations, she failed to qualify as she did not get minimum marks in the compulsory language paper, because she had studied only Hindi in school. But she was not proficient enough in Hindi to get minimum marks in the compulsory Hindi paper in the UPSC

examinations. She realized that it was her fault not to have studied Tamil at the school level.

Since she could speak and understand Tamil, it was not difficult for her to read and write Tamil. After taking one month training under me, she watched Tamil News, read Tamil newspapers and solved previous UPSC Tamil papers, and succeeded in the UPSC examinations in her third attempt. Now she is serving as an I.P.S. Officer in Karnataka. After her success she came to my house with her parents. At that time, her parents regretted that they had no made Sujitha take Tamil language in school. They thanked me for giving training to their daughter and helping her to get through the examination. In this connection, a popular Tamil magazine Junior Magazine wrote an article under the heading, 'Hindi did not help her, but Tamil gave a helping hand'. Even now, we were in touch with each other on World Tamil Language Day.

For the last 20 years, I have been giving training to students who have taken Tamil as an optional subject. Tamil literature, Tamil Culture, Grammar tips, approach to literature research, folk literature, analytical grammar and journalism.

In Tamil Paper II, Kurunthogai (25 poems), Purananuru (18 poems) Thirukkural (Politics and Ministerial of state), Silapadhikaram (Madurai Kandam), Thiruvasagam, Tiruppavai, Kannan Pattu, Kudumba Vilakku, Karuppu Malargal, Ye Thaazhndha Tamizhagamey, Aramum Arasiyalum, Guru Peedam, Chithirapaavai, Malaiyaruvi, and Muthubattan Kathai are included.

For questions from these portions, answers should be in critical style. They should be written in candidate's own style with suitable internal and external examples. To get good marks in examinations extensive reading and good writing training is required. There should be no spelling mistakes. The handwriting should be good . Even if it is not very beautiful, it should be readable. I have seen students, who don't have very beautiful handwriting but got good marks because of the good insights in their writing. Time management is necessary to answer all questions within the stipulated time. I would like to share the secrets of my successful students.

Brother Anandakumar was selected in the year 2003. He read extensively and

wrote in his own style boldly after absorbing the comments. Shanmughapriya, who succeeded in the 2010 examinations, read deeply. At the same she used to use my comments appropriately. Time management is her significant talent.

Brother V.P.Jayaseelan is a candidate who wrote all papers in Tamil in the UPSC examinations. He is very much interested in literature. He can write poems and is a good platform speaker. In a model examination, the invigilator who he valued his paper warned him not to write his answers in poetic style. Later when he met me he asked me what was wrong in his style.

I told him that only a few persons write all papers in Tamil in the UPSC Examinations and of them only a fraction write in poetic style. So there is nothing wrong in it. He wrote some of the practice examinations in very good manner. He avoided the mistakes which he had made in the earlier examinations. Result. In the UPSC Examination, he stood first in the State.

Though I am very eager to mention my experiences in Tamil Literature with regard to other brothers and sisters and their success in the UPSC examinations, I will leave them out for now.

If I happen to write a similar article in future, I would like to write about sister 'Otruppizhai' Uma, brother Madhubalan, who wrote examinations despite heavy rains, a brother who was scolded by me for leaving Thirukkural in choice, brother Saravanan, who clarified his doubts even after the class was over and justified it through his success in the examination. Even after model examinations, brother Muruganandam benefited by hearing my lectures. We will see in future articles about sister Alamel Mangai, who corrected the mistakes she committed in previous examination, brother Subburaj, who was enthused by a Thirukkural couplet I quoted and brother Udhayakumar who said there are a lot of lessons to learn from the training examinations. There are other students who are at the back of mind. I will write another piece about the impact of Tamil literature on their UPSC Examinations. This article comes to a close for now. But there is no end to intoxication given by the literature.

September 5: Birth anniversary of
Kappalottiya Tamizhan V.O.Chidambaranar

Doughty freedom fighter who set ships on sail

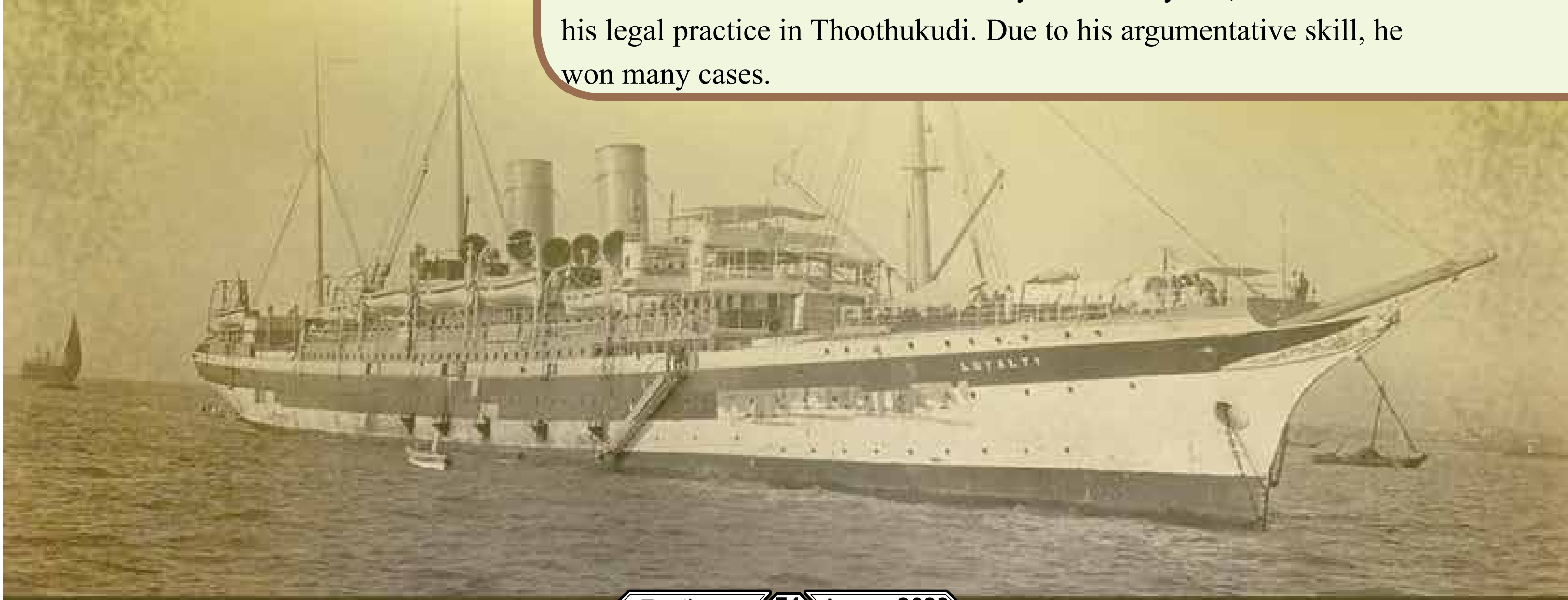
Kappalottiya Tamizhan V.O.Chidambaranar was the first person to formulate the unique plan of overthrowing British imperialism by capturing commerce which helped it establish itself in India. It was with this lofty motive that V.O.Chidambaranar started his Swadeshi Shipping Company.

V.O.Chidambaranar was born in the small town of Ottapidaram in Thoothukudi District to Olaganathan Pillai and Paramayee Ammal on 05.09.1872. He completed his early education in Ottapidaram. To impart English education to V.O.C, his father opened an English school in the small town. V.O.Chidambaranar continued his high school education in the Xavier High School and Caldwell High School in Thoothukudi. He became proficient both in Tamil and English.

V.O.Chidambaranar's grandfather, his father and his uncle were all leading lawyers. V.O.Chidambaranar was also attracted towards the legal profession and studied in the Tiruchi Law College and became a noted lawyer in the year 1895.

He started his legal practice in Ottapidaram itself. His traditional family house in the town was popularly known as 'Vakil Ayya's House' in those days.

V.O.C excelled as a criminal lawyer. After 5 years, he continued his legal practice in Thoothukudi. Due to his argumentative skill, he won many cases.



V.O.C was not only a good orator but a proficient writer too. He started the monthly magazine ‘Vivekabhanu’.

The Newspaper “Tamil National” and “Hindu National” were also run by him. He published a compilation of poems titled ‘Meyyarivu and Meyyaram’, an anthology of his poems, and his verse autobiography, Suyasarithai. As he was a Tamil scholar, he wrote commentaries for Innilai, Thirukkural and Sivagnanabodham. He published editions of Ezhuthu Athikaram and Sol Athikaram of Tholkapppiyam and Sivagnanabodham.

V.O.C was a member of various associations like Saiva Siddhantha Sabha, Madurai Tamil Sangam, Valibar Sangham and also started Handicrafts Association and Dharma Sangam.

The fire of freedom struggle was ignited in his mind by his meeting with Swami Ramakrishnananda of the Ramakrishna Math.

To make Bharathi’s dream of Indians sailing many ships in the oceans a reality, he started the Swadeshi Shipping Company with Rs. 10 lakh equity investment. The President of the Madurai Tamil Sangam, Thiru. Pandithurai Thevar was the Chairman of the Shipping Company, V.O.C. was the Secretary and Salem Vijayaraghavachariar was the legal advisor. Due to this, the business of British was affected a little. As the British felt that Chidambaranar was responsible for this, they gave all sorts of trouble to him.

With Thilagar as his political guru, he championed nationalistic causes. Both Bharathi and Subramaniya Bharathi stood by him in the freedom struggle.

In 1905, he started Desabimanigal Sangam and Janasangam in Tirunelveli.

His oratorical power kindled the freedom spirit in the hearts of people. The British Government, at the instigation of the then Tirunelveli District Collector Winch, filed a case of treason against V.O.C. At the trial, V.O.C was awarded 40 years imprisonment. He was lodged in Coimbatore Jail and tortured. The prison authorities forced him to draw an oil press and subjected him to indignities.

Meanwhile, the news that the Swadeshi Shipping Company collapsed due to the deceit of British came as a big blow to V.O.C.

He was lodged in jail at the age of 35 for involving himself in the freedom struggle and was released only in December 1912.

He became very sick even when he was jail, V.O.C. who was known as the Lion of South India breathed his last on 18.11.1936.

-Excerpts from Kattabomman to Gandhiyar of Poovazhagi Pathippagam.

Lend me your heart, Anna!

Our dear Anna, the ruler of our hearts
Did you not pride yourself on your thambis
Who could dauntlessly take on armies?
Why then did you leave us to undertake a long journey?
We grew up in the warmth of your gaze,
Why have you left us with tear-filled eyes?
We thought you would provide a shade to us
But you have left us, searching for a shade for yourself
under the beach sands, is it fair on your part?
Are you sleeping under the sands of the shore
To tell us that the pearls under the sea are not pearls
but you are the real pearl?
Why have you silenced your tongue
That resounded with the music of Tamil?
Your fingers whirled to create wonders in the literary world
Why are those fingers clenched now?
I have witnessed the great beauty of your countenance
When you would close your eyes to think.
But today, alas, the earth envelopes you
Preventing my eyes from your sight.
You found an end to our travails
But why have you left us to undergo greater travails?
You told us that we should have hearts
that can bear any adversity,
but we lack the strength to bear this one.
Enough, Anna, you have spent enough time
Enjoying the breeze of the sea.
Come Anna, let us go!
But no, you won't come, you won't come.
We know the conspiracy of Nature.
Till the day when I come to your place
Lend me your heart, Anna!
When I come to meet you again,
I will place your heart at your feet, Anna!

- The poetic tribute of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar to Perarignar Anna, on 09.02.1969 over All India Radio

Success Story

Madurai District

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens Kalaignar Centenary Library; Madurai gets another imposing landmark

As another landmark in Madurai city known for antiquity, art, culture, literature, politics and spirituality, in connection with the birth centenary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the Kalaignar Centenary Library on New Natham Road, was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on 15.07.2023.

Built with modern construction techniques, the library is fully air-conditioned and is functioning as an automatic digital library. With six floors and 3 lakh books, it is

one of the biggest libraries in Asia. Apart from rare books, this library has books written by contemporary authors.

Books adorn the 6 floors in the Library

The library, with ground floor and 6 floors, has been constructed on 2,13,338 sq.feet on 2.73 acres, at a cost of Rs.120.75 crore and also has a basement. At the basement, there is provision for vehicle parking, information and newspapers storage and a book binding section.

In the ground floor, you have an art gallery, differently-abled persons wing, conference hall, rest room, own books reading section, hall for miscellaneous uses and membership enrolment room. On the first floor, Kalaignar Wing, Children's Library, Newspapers and Periodicals, own books reading section and scientific instruments wing. On the second floor, you have a collection of Tamil books and Kalaignar's books. English books and research papers are available on the third floor. On the fourth floor, there are over 30,000 books required by students aspiring for competitive examinations. In the fifth floor, e-books of international standard for the benefit of the younger generation and in the sixth floor, classification and cataloguing of books and section for administrative staff,

Now the library is visited with great interest by the public, college and school students and writers. On week-ends, thousands of people visit this library with their children and friends as if it is a tourist spot. The library is now in the tourist list of Madurai along with Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple, Tirumalai Naikcer Mahal and Mahatma Gandhi Museum. Visitors

are taking selfies with the frontage of the library in the background and inside the library too.

To encourage the reading habit among children, there are many interesting features in the library. Of this, the children's scientific pavilion is meant to kindle the scientific fervour in children. All the features which are normally available in science parks are in this section also. Man's weight differs from planet to planet. The high-tech weighing machines, based on this theory, attract children, who are eager to know their weight on other planets.

In the children's section, paintings and comfortable seats foster the reading habit among students. Both the Government and private school managements are bringing their students to the library. In the reception room on the basement floor, the visitors' seats are shaped like a pen. Every design and special feature is meant to kindle the reading habit among visitors.

The library is overflowing with people as children are surprised by it, the eagerness of school children is kindled and elders too are wonder-struck by it. Madurai City, which is famous for its Tamil Sangam, is now adorned by Kalaignar's Centenary Library and serves as a symbol of South India. This library stands as a knowledge centre for the future generations.

Views of Thiru Vignesh of Panaiyur Village in Madurai District

I was born in a poor family in Panaiyur village in Madurai District. I have completed a Diploma in Electrical Engineering. At present, I am preparing for the TNPSC examinations. At this juncture, this library has been opened.

The library has lakhs of books. With air-conditioned facilities, this library provides an ideal atmosphere to prepare for the competitive examinations. It is said that the library is the biggest in Asia. This library situated in Madurai is the city's pride. It is a boon to backward students like me. I extend my whole hearted thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for providing this facility to students like me.

Selvi T. Nivedha of Yadhava College for women, Madurai

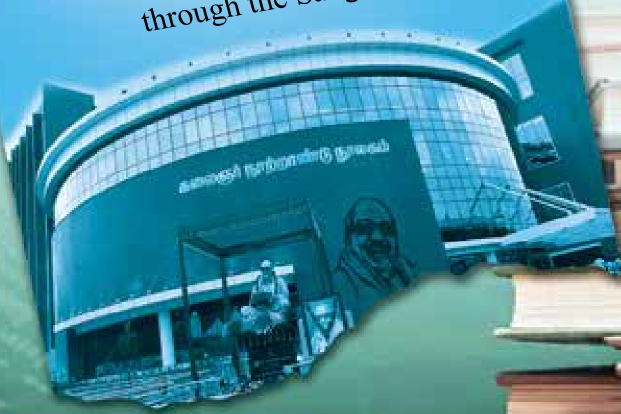
I am doing my third year B.Sc in Mathematics. The library, situated on New Natham Road, Madurai is really very grand and imposing. It has been constructed with modern technology and it is artistically designed. One feels like entering a modern mall when entering the library, which has a lot of books, digital services, escalators and air-conditioned facilities. The books available in this library are really useful to students like me. This library has books on art, literature, short stories, articles, research books, and books for competitive examinations . One wants to come again and again to this library. We are really grateful to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for giving this library to us.

THEN ...

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, who had great interest in books and in reading them, declared open the Anna Centenary Library at Kotturpuram in Chennai on 15.09.2010 to provide knowledge to all sections of people.

NOW...

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin declared open the Kalaignar Centenary Library on over two lakh sq.ft., with ultra modern facilities at New Natham Road in Madurai on 15.07.2023, to enable even common people to study Sangam literature in the land of Madurai which fostered Tamil through the Sangam era.



Success Story

Thoothukudi District

Beneficiaries rejoice over pension hike and thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing pension schemes to protect the weaker sections of society. The Government of Tamil Nadu under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M. K. Stalin continues to function in the path of former Chief Minister Muthamizharignar Kalaignar as a state which provides opportunities and lends a helping hand to the poor and needy through social security schemes.

The stipend provided through various social security schemes including the old-age pension which has not been increased for the last 10 years, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, who has been working with great concern for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu and continues to implement various welfare schemes, has ordered the increase of monthly pension being provided through various social security schemes including old-age pension, from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,200.

There are various social security schemes in Tamil Nadu which are being implemented under the Indira Gandhi National Old-Age Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, Differently-abled Pension Scheme, Destitute/Deserted Wives Pension Scheme, Pension for Unmarried Poor Women of 50 years and above and Sri Lankan Refugees Pension Scheme.

These pension schemes were first introduced in Tamil Nadu in 1962. At that time Rs.20 per month was given as pension

and these schemes were launched. Since 1962 till now, this pension has been gradually increased at various times and now it is given as a monthly pension of Rs.1,000. Apart from that, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin, who is very concerned about the welfare of the differently-abled persons, has created a separate department for their development and is implementing various welfare schemes. He has ordered the increase of the pension from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 which was given to the differently-abled persons and it is being given from 1st January 2023.

About 30,55,857 beneficiaries across Tamil Nadu are getting this monthly pension through all social security schemes. This increase in pension benefits the members enrolled in schemes in the handloom sector and members of various boards that function under the Labour Welfare Department. Similarly, construction workers under the Construction Labour Board also benefit.

In Thoothukudi District, 50,131 beneficiaries are receiving monthly pension through various social security schemes including old-age allowance.

Response of Tmt Bhoolammal, a beneficiary of monthly pension

My name is Bhoolammal. I live in Karuppasamipuram, Thoothukudi. The breadwinners of the family work as daily wage earners. I have applied for pension and I am receiving OAP payment of Rs. 1,000 per month. We had got the Rs. 1,000 for ten years. Now the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin has raised the amount to Rs.1,200. It makes us very happy. We express our sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister

of Tamil Nadu who is implementing such schemes to benefit the poor and simple people like us.

Views of Tmt. Asan Beevi, a beneficiary of the monthly pension

My name is Asan Beevi. I live in Nandammalpuram, Thoothukudi. For the past

few years, I have received an old-age pension of Rs.1,000. Hon'ble Chief Minister Ayya has announced that it will be increased to Rs.1,200 from next month. We are very much satisfied. A lot of senior citizens like me will benefit from the increase of the old age pension. I am very thankful to Hon'ble Chief Minister Ayya who is announcing various welfare schemes so that people from all walks of life can benefit and be happy.

Compiled by
Public Relations Officer,
Thoothukudi District.

கலைஞர் மகளிர் உரிமைத் திட்டம்

விண்ணப்பங்கள் பதிவு செய்யும் முகாம்
—தொடங்கி வைப்பவர்—

திரு. மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் அவர்கள்
மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர்

Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Scheme

Camp for Registering the applications

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, inaugurated a camp for beneficiaries under the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Scheme to register their applications, to avail themselves of the monthly assistance **Rs.1,000,** and inspected the arrangements being made for biometric registration of the applications at a function held at the Thoppur Government Higher Secondary School in Dharmapuri District, on 24.07.2023.

Tamilarasu

R.N.I. No. 21445/70 Regn. No. TN/CCN/642/2021-2023

Date of Publication : 2nd week of every month

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** called on and presented a memento to the Hon'ble President of India **Tmt. Draupadi Murmu** on 06.08.2023, when she had come for the inaugural function of Bharathiyar Mandapam and to unveil the portrait of the Mahakavi Bharathiyar at Raj Bhavan, Chennai.

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